** Mapping Pathways through Credit for Prior Learning (CPL)**

**American Council on Education - CPL Workshop Faculty Activity**

**STUDENT: Ed U. Cate**

**Part I**

Ed visits your campus in search of a degree program. He wants to learn about options that may be available to him based on his former training, education and experience. Below is a profile of his work and educational background:

* Employment: United State Marine Corps 2010 – 2015.
* USMC Electronics Technician (MOS-MCE-2862-002; Occupational Field 28 –Ground Electronics Maintenance) He has earned a total of 24 ACE college credit recommendations for military experience: 18 lower division baccalaureate/associate degree category credit recommendations and 6 in upper division baccalaureate degree category as follows:

LOWER

* 3 semester hours in supervision
* 3 in communication
* 3 in electronic communications
* 3 in electronic systems
* 3 in electrical safety
* 3 in computer applications

UPPER

* 3 in management
* 3 in maintenance management

Which office will Ed be directed to visit first?

Which office reviews military training recommendations?

Which documents are required for evaluation (JST or DD-214)?

* Employment: General Electric (GE)Transportation 2015– Present

Career Progression: Mechanical engineer to Chief mechanical engineer

Chief Mechanical Engineer Brief Job Description

Effectively interviews, supervises, trains, delegates, and assigns tasks to **engineering** staff while successfully maintaining maximum productivity. - Acquires vendor and contractual pricing for **mechanical** parts, equipment and tools to be submitted to upper management for approval. They are also expected to be involved with the financial and planning aspects of projects rather than simply the **engineering** aspect.

He has earned a total of 18 ACE college credit recommendations for workforce/corporate training credit recommendations in the lower division category as specified below:

LOWER

* + 3 in electro-mechanical systems maintenance lab
	+ 3 in basic or applied electricity
	+ 3 in diesel engine theory
	+ 3 in diesel engines
	+ 3 in introduction to electrical
	+ 3 in introduction to diesel technology systems

Which office reviews ACE Transcripts?

Are ACE transcripts evaluated independently and articulated directly or is it evaluated as a part of the Portfolio Assessment process?

Can he earn additional credits for his management experience at GE?

* Bilingual in English and Chinese (fluent).

How does the student know he is eligible to take CLEP examinations for languages? Who advises students on CLEP exams? Are there departmental examinations available?

* Passed DSST exam in Business Math.

 Which office reviews DSST transcript or exam information on the JST?

* Mentors students in auto-mechanic repair for internship at local schools.

What tools are available to Ed to earn credit for prior learning from this experience?

* Ed is a ASE Certified Master Automobile Technician with an A9 – Light Vehicle Diesel Engines certification as well as a L2- Electronic Diesel Engine Diagnosis Specialist (*Automotive Service Excellence line of certification are the industry standard for determining the skill of auto mechanics. It covers 8 core areas for modern technicians for maintenance and repair of a broad range of vehicle types*.)

Would your institution consider credit for this certification?

Which department would review and award credit for volunteer work supervising students?

**Part II**

Envision yourself as a student. Walk in Ed U. Cate’s shoes as he seeks advice about degree programs and credit for prior learning options at your campus. Here are some questions to consider:

1. Can Ed apply for prior learning credit *before* he is accepted or does he need to be accepted into the school then apply for transfer credit after a specific period of time or number of credits earned toward a degree program?
2. How would Ed find out about CPL options at your campus? Would he need to initiate the conversation or will all of his prior learning options be considered during the admission process? Where can he get information about the process to apply?
3. What are potential degree program choices that align with his prior education and training? Generally, what would transfer and how would it meet his degree requirements?
4. What credit for prior learning options at your campus can this student utilize to maximize his experiences for credit hours so he does not repeat information already learned and demonstrated, reduce time to completion and reduce tuition costs?
5. How many people/offices would Ed meet/visit to find out information?
6. How long would the evaluation process take before Ed gets a decision about his transfer credit?
7. What would Ed find satisfying about his experiences with the process?
8. What might be a source of frustration for Ed about the process? Is this something that can be changed?
9. From your point of view, what currently works and where are opportunities for improvement on your campus for learners, such as Ed U. Cate?