The Evaluation and Learning Research Center (ELRC) provides intellectual capital that drives effective proposal development and project enactment. Known for conducting rigorous research and evaluation, the ELRC maintains a portfolio of over 20 active projects, adds credibility and value to over 40 proposals each year, and consults with partners both on and off campus on a host of nascent stage projects. The ELRC:

- conducts original research that pushes the boundaries of our understanding of learning, workforce development and equity;
- supports research, education, and engagement projects through expertise in educational theory, evaluation, and project management;
- partners with both internal and external stakeholders to enhance accountability, visibility, and reputation.

**ELRC Approach:**

The ELRC collaborative approach to evaluation starts with a conversation early in proposal/project development to define, frame, and describe the project. Drawing on a portfolio of tools, ELRC works with partners to identify appropriate research and evaluation models and develop logical frameworks that inform ongoing project development/implementation.

**ELRC Roles:**

ELRC roles vary depending on the needs of a particular project. Common roles include:
- Critical Friend
- Research Collaborator
- Evaluation Capacity Building
- Evaluation Analysis
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Formative/Summative/Program Evaluation

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**ELRC Expertise:**

**Logic Models/Strategic Planning**

**Theoretical Frameworks/Theories of Change**
(Self-determination, Social Identity, Social/Cultural Capital, Cognitive Apprenticeship, Social Cognitive Career)

**Qualitative Evaluation and Research Methods**
(Focus group, Interview, Observation, Ethnography)

**Quantitative Evaluation and Research Methods**
(Sampling and Sample Design, Surveys, Modeling, WWCH)

**Projects:**

ELRC projects encompass the full range of educational research studies (foundational, early-stage or exploratory, design and development) and studies that evaluate the impact of educational interventions and strategies (efficacy, effectiveness, and scale-up). ELRC staff are also experienced in program (or external) evaluation that examines the effectiveness and efficiency of a program or project.

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