

Project Based Learning

Our team of four NYIT Honors fellows, Lissi Athanasiou-Krikelis, Humanities; Wen Yao Hu, Business; Ling Wan Albert, Health Professions, and Donna Potts, Humanities, participated in the Worcester Polytechnic Institute Center for Project Learning June 2-5. We developed a project-based learning plan for Honors students, which we will begin in Spring 2027 and continue for three years, but we have already begun implementing PBL in our syllabi.

We developed a plan for student participation in the community garden at Old Westbury and the development of a garden on the Manhattan Campus. The plan is based on the UN goals of Good Health, Clean Water, Affordable and Clean Energy, Reduced Inequalities, Sustainable Cities and Communities, and Climate Action. Our project supports NYIT's mission to provide career-oriented professional education, providing opportunities for all students to rely on skills from their majors. Companies have noted that engineering students don't know how to use basic tools such as screwdrivers, hammers, and drills; a raised bed project would remedy this. All students would have opportunities to participate in the garden; students will do literature reviews of available scholarship, and our scholarship on PBL would support research and scholarship that benefit the larger world.

Building a PBL Honors College Course



1

Why This Plan

NYIT's honors course relies on project based learning aligned with selected U.N. initiatives. A three-semester course.

2

The Project

Students work toward a community garden: one for a suburban campus and an rooftop garden for the NYC campus.

3

Possible Tasks for First semester

- Literature reviews
- Financial Analysis
- Garden designs
- Create city maps
- Visit other gardens in the area
- Consider water and drainage issues
- Consider composting

4

Action Plan

Fall 2026: We determine the feasibility of the rooftop garden,, create a syllabus; and prepare the course material.

Presenting our Plan at the Institute



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Lightning Presentation as a Poem

