The Experimental College was begun in 1968 as an experiment in alternative education. Today it continues to provide the Oberlin community with perhaps the most enjoyable and rewarding experience in college learning. ExCo—entirely run by students—provides between 60 and 100 courses per semester. Anyone may take or teach classes—students, faculty members, staff members, and townspeople alike. Those who demonstrate expertise and enthusiasm may teach a course as long as that course is judged to have educational merit and a reasonably serious purpose. ExCo classes reflect the current academic, intellectual, social, ideological, philosophical, political, emotional, sexual, and fashion trends of the Oberlin community.

Students may receive college credit for taking ExCo courses, most of which are offered for 1 credit hour. Each student may accumulate up to 5 of the 112 credit hours needed for graduation through ExCo, and, of course, can take many more for no credit at all. Those who teach ExCo courses also receive credit. The ExCo committee is the student organization that oversees and evaluates the applications of proposed courses, prints the ExCo catalogue every semester, handles everyday bureaucratic tasks, and organizes ExCo registration.

Below you will find a representative list of courses that have been offered recently. For a complete listing of the courses, please visit www.oberlin.edu/exco

American Indian Movement
Argentine Tango I & II
Beginning Fencing
Beginning Swing
Brazilian Jiu Jitsu
Calvin & Hobbes
Circus Arts Skillshare
Classical Music of North India
Community Radio ExCo
Competitive Math Problem-Solving
Elementary Korean I & II
Fundamentals of Rock Climbing
History of Piracy
History of the German Language
Introduction to Cuban Salsa
Introduction to Turntablism
Irish Step Dancing
Knitting for Noobs
Morocco and the Middle East
Music Mentors
Play Bridge Like Your Grandma
Stained Glass and Fused Glass
Steel Drum ExCo
Swedish Language and Culture
Taiko Drumming
The Crochet ExCo
The Game of Go
The Office