2.10.05 General Education Learning Outcomes

Policy Summary

The University has developed specific student learning outcomes for the following general education areas: Written Communication, Mathematics, Institutional Foundations, Humanities/Fine Arts, Natural and Computational Sciences, Social Sciences, US Perspectives, Global Perspectives, and Critical Thinking.

Full Policy Text

Area A1. Written Communication
Students produce well-organized communication that exhibits logical thinking, demonstrates appropriate style for circumstance and audience, meets conventional standards of usage, and acknowledges the use of information sources when necessary. Students demonstrate comprehension of written material: purpose, message, and rhetorical situation.

Area A2. Mathematics
Students understand and apply mathematical concepts and reasoning using verbal, numeric, graphical and/or symbolic forms.

Area B. Institutional Foundations
Students effectively analyze, evaluate, and provide convincing reasons in support of conclusions, considering opposing points of view when appropriate.

Area C. Humanities/Fine Arts
Students effectively analyze the meanings of texts and/or works of art or music, express ways that culture shapes values, and critically evaluate them.

Area D. Natural and Computational Sciences
Students demonstrate understanding of the physical universe, the nature of science, and the scientific method, and/or understand and apply mathematical concepts and reasoning using verbal, numeric, graphical or symbolic forms.

Area E. Social Sciences
Students effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social, and/or spatial relationships develop, persist, and/or change.

Area I. US Perspectives
Students demonstrate understanding of the United States and its related political, social, and/or institutional developments.

Area II. Global Perspectives
Students demonstrate understanding of political, social, economic, and/or institutional developments across the globe.

Area III. Critical Thinking
Students effectively analyze, evaluate, and provide convincing reasons in support of conclusions,
considering opposing points of view when appropriate.

http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwphl/adandst/Core%202010-03-29.pdf

Administration of Policy

Mandating Authority: 
University Senate

Responsible Office(s): 
Senate Committee on Admissions and Standards

Responsible Executive(s): 

Policy History

Approving Body: Senate

Rationale or Purpose

The new BOR Core Curriculum rules require all system institutions to have learning outcomes in each area of the existing core areas A-E and in three new areas: Area I, Critical Thinking (CT), Area II, US Perspectives (US), and Area III, Global Perspectives (GL).

The proposed learning outcomes replace our current gen ed outcomes. The current outcomes are not associated with individual areas of the core curriculum. Much of the content of the current outcomes is reworked into the new outcomes. The main changes are the removal of oral communication, collaboration, and technology. The new outcomes strike a balance between the generality required by a diverse core and the specificity necessary for assessment.

Additional Information

University Senate document history: April 8, 1999; March 22, 2001; February 13, 2004

Additional Helpful Resources