General Education Competencies, Outcomes, and Objectives

Goal One: Critical Thinking

Competency: Understand the elements of scientific inquiry
Learning Outcome: Students will use the scientific method to define a problem, utilize appropriate methods to solve the problem, and propose and evaluate a solution to the problem.
Learning Objectives: In order to achieve the learning outcome, the student will be able to . . .
1. Observe and describe natural phenomena and formulate hypotheses.
2. Plan and implement scientific experiments to test hypotheses.
3. Utilize scientific laboratory skills for data collection within a college laboratory setting (if the class has a laboratory component).
4. Evaluate experimental data and propose solutions based on this data.
5. Evaluate the proposed implications of a solution.

Competency: Use numbers and quantitative relationships
Learning Outcome: Students will apply mathematical concepts and methods to understand, analyze, and communicate in quantitative terms.
Learning Objectives: In order to achieve the learning outcome, the student will be able to . . .
1. Recognize, describe, represent, and work with numbers and their relationships to solve, estimate, calculate, and check solution of equations and systems of equations.
2. Use the language of algebra to model and evaluate the nature of relationships between variables in algebraic and transcendental functions.
3. Analyze and interpret the graphs of algebraic and transcendental functions, and communicate the results in a meaningful way.
4. Organize and interpret data using appropriate methods to draw conclusions and make predictions.

Competency: Access and evaluate information from credible sources
Learning Outcome: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the structure of the information environment and the process by which information is produced, organized, and disseminated.
Learning Objectives: In order to achieve the learning outcome, the student will be able to . . .
1. Determine the scope and type of information needed to effectively analyze and support a thesis.
2. Access a variety of databases, references, and other sources appropriate for the information needed.
3. Demonstrate that the accessed information has provenance, logic, validity, relevance, and credibility.
4. Demonstrate the ability to use accessed information ethically and legally through proper attribution.
5. Demonstrate an ability to synthesize the accessed information into written or oral presentations appropriate to the academic discipline.
Goal Two: Communication

Competency: Write effectively
Learning Outcome: Students will write Standard American English in a clear, correct, and organized manner for a variety of purposes and audiences.
Learning Objectives: In order to achieve the learning outcome, the student will be able to . . .

1. Write clear and concise sentences using Standard American English with appropriate syntax and mechanics.
2. Write paragraphs that demonstrate unity and coherence with appropriate details and examples that support the topic and thesis.
3. Develop written compositions using organizational patterns or rhetorical modes appropriate for the desired audience and purpose.
4. Combine the composition skills of prewriting, revising, and editing to complete a final, college-level draft.

Competency: Speak effectively
Learning Outcome: Students will speak in a clear, precise, coherent, perceptive, and correct manner for a variety of purposes and audiences.
Learning Objectives: In order to achieve the learning outcome, the student will be able to . . .

1. Prepare outlines for different types of oral presentation that show appropriate organizational skills.
2. Deliver a variety of oral presentations that demonstrate an understanding of the material and an awareness of delivery skills appropriate to the type of presentation.
3. Demonstrate the ability to effectively take part in group presentations.
4. Demonstrate an ability to use technology and/or audio-visual aids appropriate to the topic and type of presentation.
5. Demonstrate the importance of audience when developing and presenting an oral presentation.

Competency: Use current and appropriate technology tools and resources
Learning Outcome: Students will use computer technology to retrieve and communicate information.
Learning Objectives: In order to achieve the learning outcome, the student will be able to . . .

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the functionality and terminology associated with information technology tools and resources.
2. Demonstrate the ability to use document processing software.
3. Demonstrates the ability to use presentation software to communicate information and ideas.
4. Demonstrate the ability to use information technology to conduct online research to locate and retrieve relevant information or raw data from credible sources.
5. Demonstrate the ability to utilize current and appropriate information technology and communication software, like email, to communicate information.
Goal Three: Social and Cultural Awareness

Competency: Recognize expressions of the human experience
Learning Outcome: Students will explore, share, and reconstruct expressions of the human experience within the context of the past and present.
Learning Objectives: In order to achieve the learning outcome, the student will be able to . . .
1. Analyze key events (including historical, social, economic, and/or personal) that influenced a particular form of creative human expression.
2. Analyze key events (including historical, social, economic, and/or personal) that demonstrate how a particular form of creative human expression influenced other works.
3. Evaluate a particular form of creative human expression in the context of the appropriate academic discipline.
4. Create or reconstruct an expression of the human experience and share with others (if the class is performance based).

Competency: Recognize the interrelationship of social factors on human thoughts and action
Learning Outcome: Students will examine the impact of social factors on personal beliefs, while considering alternatives to the dominate culture’s viewpoint.
Learning Objectives: In order to achieve the learning outcome, the student will be able to . . .
1. Define socialization within the context of social institutions.
2. Recognize and explain the significance of the key agents of socialization.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the existence and effects of diversity across cultures.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of characteristics of a culture outside the student’s own.

Competency: Demonstrate knowledge of responsible citizenship
Learning Outcome: Students will demonstrate an understanding of responsible and participatory citizenship.
Learning Objectives: In order to achieve the learning outcome, the student will be able to . . .
1. Define citizenship.
2. Identify the processes and institutions that influence participatory citizenship in the United States.
3. Describe the student’s rights and responsibilities as a citizen under the United States Constitution.
4. Demonstrate understanding of the basic civic duties of every American citizen.