Summary of May 7, 2009 Faculty Meeting

Arts and Humanities

Definition
The Arts and Humanities include the disciplines of ancient and modern languages, literature, philosophy, visual and performing arts. These disciplines explore, share, and recreate expressions of the human experience.

Outcomes
- Students will recognize the language of the discipline.
- Students will recognize the historical and cultural influences on the discipline.
- Students will recognize the quality of expression in the works of the discipline.

Communication

Definition
Communication is the process of creating meaning through the exchange of speech, writing, or symbols.

Outcomes
- Students will demonstrate the ability to write effectively.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to speak effectively.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to gather information.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to synthesize information.
- Students will demonstrate an awareness of the role and value of purpose as it relates to the audience.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the role and value of purpose as it relates to the audience.
- Students will demonstrate an awareness of a variety of communication media and use them effectively.

Comments: to consider:
Should “listening” be considered as a component of this category? Does the word exchange assume listening? Is there an overlap with Information Literacy?

Critical Thinking

Definition
Critical thinking is a purposeful, reasoned, objective and goal directed process.

Outcomes
- Students will use critical thinking skills, involving logical and intuitive processes, to problem solve. (for problem solving? to solve problems?)
- Students will use the scientific method to address an issue or solve a problem.

Comments:
What is the difference between using the scientific method for critical thinking verses science?
Critical thinking focuses on rules of logic and science focuses on the physical and natural environment.
What is the definition of “intuitive processes”?

Criteria
characteristics/elements of satisfactory performance
- identifies a problem or issue
- gathers relevant information to address the problem or issue
- analyzes the information for credibility
- analyzes the information for reliability
analyses the information for biases
develops a course of action
evaluates and/or modify results as needed

Note: criteria also includes accuracy, speed, number (or percent) standards, permissible errors, and/or degree of excellence

Conditions include “Givens,” environment, direction, format, and deadlines

(e.g., what resources, equipment, supplies, materials given/not given to complete task; what type of environment must the performance be demonstrated in; what information will be provided to the learning; in what format must the performance be demonstrated; and by what time must the learner complete the performance)

Technological and Information Literacy

Definition
Technological and Information literacy is the ability to utilize current and appropriate technology tools and information resources to access, retrieve, create, analyze, process, and communicate information.

Technological Literacy

Outcomes
Students will utilize current technology tools to access information.
Students will utilize current technology tools to retrieve information.
Students will utilize current technology tools to create information.
Students will utilize current technology tools to analyze information.
Students will utilize current technology tools to process information.
Students will utilize current technology tools to communicate information.

Criteria and Conditions
Electronic communication
Internet research
Word process
Spreadsheet
Basic computer terminology
Word processing
Key at 20 nwpm using proper techniques
Computerized file management
  Create folders
  Organize files into folders
  Zip and unzip folders
Internet research
Electronic communication
  Email
Spreadsheet
  Gather Data
  Create Graphs
  Create Charts
Identify and communicate routine hardware and software problems

Information Literacy

Outcomes
Students will define the need for information.
Students will articulate the need for information
Students will access needed information effectively.
Students will access needed information efficiently.
Students will evaluate information and its sources critically
Students will incorporate selected information into his or her knowledge base and value system.
Students will use information effectively to accomplish a purpose (either individually or as a member of a group).
Students will understand economic, legal and/or social issues surrounding the use of information
Students will access information ethically and legally.
Students will use information ethically and legally.

Comments:
Needs definition

Does it need to be this specific? (Outcomes, criteria and conditions)
Do we need to assess nwpm?
Too long
Use of information is in two different bullets (individually/group)

Mathematics

Definition
Mathematics is the language that uses numbers and relationships to describe physical reality through measurement, modeling, and deductive and inductive reasoning.

Outcomes
Students will model real world phenomena utilizing polynomial functions.
Students will model real world phenomena utilizing rational functions.
Students will model real world phenomena utilizing radical functions.
Students will model real world phenomena utilizing exponential functions.
Students will model real world phenomena utilizing logarithmic functions.
Students will apply basic reasoning to analyze data.
Students will apply basic reasoning to interpret data.
Students will apply basic reasoning to analyze graphs.
Students will apply basic reasoning to interpret graphs.
Students will use appropriate technology for mathematical reasoning in various disciplines.
Students will use appropriate technology for problem solving in various disciplines.

Comments:
Specific v. general learning outcome statements (learning outcomes appear to be more like criteria for satisfactory performance)
Michigan Merit Curriculum- should outcome be higher?

Science

Definition:
Science is the intellectual and practical activity encompassing the systematic study of the structure and behavior of the physical and natural world through observation and experiment.

Outcome:
Students shall apply the principles of the scientific method in response to observation. (state a
hypothesis, perform appropriate tests, analyze results through qualitative and quantitative research methods, and draw appropriate conclusions.

Criteria:
- states hypothesis
- performs appropriate tests
- analyzes results through qualitative and/or qualitative research methods
- draws appropriate conclusions

Comments:
What does appropriate mean?

Social Awareness

Definition
Social awareness is comprised of the cultural knowledge and interpersonal skills necessary to function and thrive in a diverse nation and world, (with an emphasis on equity, social justice, and democracy).

Outcomes:
- Students will describe cultural and socioeconomic groups and ideas.
- Students will evaluate political systems. (and how they affect lives and employment)
- Students will evaluate social systems. (and how they affect lives and employment)
- Students will recognize how history affects present societal issues.
- Students will recognize how history affects future societal issues.
- Students will identify elements of self-management. (including wellness, ethical behavior and teamwork)

Comments:
Too specific, appears to be course-based

Suggestion for definition: Recognize the interrelationship of contextual and individual factors on human behavior and cognition.