

# Mission College General Education Student Learning Outcomes

In order to guarantee that all graduates are trained in certain basic skills and are exposed to sufficient breadth of learning, the faculty of Mission College has established the following general education learning outcomes. These outcomes will be assessed through a student survey of graduating and transferring students. The major areas of knowledge and skills that these requirements seek to address are included the following.

## I. Process Areas

### A. Communicating:

Send and receive information in a variety of modes, within a variety of settings, and for a variety of purposes.

### B. Solving Problems:

Analyze a variety of problems, select or create solutions to the problems and implement these solutions. In addition, the student will demonstrate an understanding of the methods by which problems may be investigated.

### C. Clarifying Values:

Identify his or her personal values and the personal values of others; understand how personal values develop and will be able to analyze the implications of decisions made on the basis of these values.

### D. Information Competency

- a) Demonstrate computer literacy
- b) Demonstrate information competency

## II. Content Areas

### A. Language and Rationality

Students study the human as a maker of meaning through symbolic processes. This requirement is based on the premise that effective use of language whether natural, mathematical, or computer, results from and enhances logical thought, clear expression, and critical evaluation.

1. English Composition: Learning outcomes may be measured from any combination of following:

- Write an essay of several paragraphs and develop a central idea.
- Use written and spoken language to communicate effectively according to the standards of the occasion.
- Apply principles of critical thinking to reading and writing, both in the student's own writing and in examples of manipulative propaganda selected from the mass media.
- Identify the primary elements of an argument and determine its validity.
- Discuss how symbols are used in thought and language.
- Illustrate how language is a product of and a creator of culture.

2. Communication and Analytical Thinking: Learning outcomes may be measured from any combination of following:

- Identify Principles and application of language toward logical thought, clear and precise expression, and critical evaluation of communication in whatever symbol system the student uses.
- Use mathematical symbols or computer logic structures to express relationships.
- Use abstract language to evaluate problems and communicate solutions.

### B. Natural Sciences

In the natural sciences, students study the human as a seeker of fact and the maker of meaning through abstraction and generalization. They seek those principles and concepts which continue to help explain their physical and biological environments, but primarily they seek to refine their use of those thought processes basic to science. Students who complete these courses will be able to:

- Formulate hypotheses and the testing of these hypotheses through investigation and measurement.
- Demonstrate contrasting opinion based on preconception and opinion based on controlled scientific experiment.
- Apply scientific principles to a related application used either in a laboratory setting or in society.
- Explain scientific phenomena through the use of models.

### C. Humanities

Students study the aesthetic nature of the human. Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate aesthetic appreciation.
- Demonstrate humanness within the world.
- Demonstrate interrelationships between emotional and intellectual responses.
- Demonstrate competence in the affective domain.
- Demonstrate participation in individual aesthetic, creative experiences.
- Demonstrate relationships between the purposes for which people live or have lived and the art forms they create and support.
- Demonstrate appreciation of self as a result of the understanding of different language, thought, and cultures.

### D. Social and Behavioral Sciences

This category consists of two series:

Series 1 is concerned only with American Government and Institutions. Courses in this area need to meet broad social sciences criteria as described below. These courses will specifically deal with the study of the history of the United States and its government and/or specifically deal with the structure of American and California government, as well as teach citizenship responsibilities in a democratic society.

Series 2 courses include American Government and Institutions. Students study the human as a social being in order to understand and explain human and institutional behavior.

Students who complete these courses will be able to:

- Demonstrate appreciation for the complexity of individual and group human behavior and the variety of approaches necessary to explain this complexity.
- Demonstrate sensitivity to the process and rate of social change and the historical back grounds of current social behaviors.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the cultural tradition of our society and the multicultural influences in our world.
- Discuss the scope, functions and variety of global, national, state, and local institutions, including the family.
- Identify problems of our society and develop skills in generating solutions to these problems.
- Recognize a point of view as being that, and search for the assumptions on which it is based.
- Criticize generalizations with respect to their basis in scientific observations and procedures.

### E. Life Long Learning

Students take courses in this area to enhance lifelong understanding and self-development. Students engage in the study of humans as integrated physiological, social and psychological beings in relation to society and the environment. This category includes elements of human behavior, health, physical education, interpersonal relationships, intellectual curiosity, learning to learn, expansion of one's perspective, development of a multicultural perspective, and environmental studies.