Examples* of Learning Outcomes to be Associated with the Goal of Achieving the Core Competencies

Core Competencies

To accomplish its mission, De Anza College offers programs and services by which students develop the core competencies of:

Communication

Demonstrate abilities to read, write, speak, listen, and make presentations.

Learning Outcomes

Effective communication skills are demonstrated by a student's ability to:

- read and listen analytically, with recognition and understanding of content and receptiveness to other points of view;
- write and speak clearly, accurately and fluently, with focus and continuity, using the conventions of standard American English language;
- organize, analyze, and evaluate information to develop and support a main idea, present information convincingly about a topic, and use language effectively to inform, persuade, and move an audience;
- recognize unstated assumptions and evaluate major claims and supports in written, oral, media and graphic presentations
- identify parts of speech and the grammatical elements of a sentence, and recognize and correct flaws in diction, grammar, spelling and punctuation.
- compose and deliver extemporaneous public presentations on socially significant and intellectually challenging topics;
- engage in critical and analytical listening;
- analyze audiences and adapt oral presentations to audiences; and
- assume the ethical responsibilities of the public speaker.

Students shall write complete essays that demonstrate the ability to:

- perform effectively the essential steps in the writing process (prewriting, organizing, composing, revising, and editing);
- express (explain, analyze, develop, and criticize) ideas effectively;
- use correct grammar (syntax, mechanics, and citation of sources) at a college level of sophistication; and
- write for different audiences.

Computation

Demonstrate complex problem-solving skills, technology skills, computer proficiency, and decision analysis; apply mathematical concepts & reasoning; analyze and use numerical data.

Learning Outcomes

Demonstrated by the ability to:

- apply basic methods of arithmetic, algebra, geometry and statistics for computational problems in a variety of theoretical and life situations;
- use the language, notation and deductive methods of mathematics to formulate quantitative ideas and patterns;
- describe specified mathematical models, or statistical designs and understand how they are used to obtain knowledge;
- define the role of mathematics in the development of civilization and the connection of mathematics to the arts, humanities and the sciences;
- use the techniques of statistical reasoning, calculate and interpret probability, and recognize inappropriate statistical reasoning and incorrect or misleading statistical data;
- understand the possibilities and significance of modern technology in mathematical applications, and the use of this technology to collect, process and present mathematical information.
- use mathematical methods to solve quantitative problems, including those presented in verbal form;
- demonstrate the ability to use mathematics to solve real life problems; and
- arrive at conclusions based on numerical and graphical data.

Creative, Critical & Analytical Thinking

Demonstrate skills in judgment and decision-making, curiosity, analysis, synthesis, evaluation, creativity, research, learning strategies, problem-solving, self-knowledge, and aesthetic awareness

Learning Outcomes

Demonstrated by a student's ability to:

- distinguish the problem or question from the solution or proposed answer;
- differentiate between conclusions, assumptions, and facts in the formulation of a solution or proposed answer;
- identify and evaluate connections between the supporting reasons and the statements they are supposed to support, and recognize and supply missing reasons which are needed to support or deny claims;
- recognize and evaluate the quality of evidence, including implicit presuppositions, validity of premises, weight of contrary evidence, emotional loading, reliability of sources, validity of comparisons, and relevancy;
- understand comparisons and connections within and between various fields of study, the nature of the definition or formulation of problems and questions pertaining to selected areas of study, and how different formulations of a problem can influence the solutions suggested to resolve it;
- analyze problems in terms of the information needed and the ways of finding that information through inspection, deduction, observation, experiment, consultation, historical investigation, and comparison;
- transfer, where applicable, learned skills, modes of inquiry, and information to new areas or problems;
- examine various strategies which might be used to solve a problem, select and apply a strategy appropriate to the problem, and evaluate the resulting solution, including its consequences.
- distinguish between reasoning (e.g., explanation, argument) and other types of discourse (e.g., description, assertion);
- identify, analyze, and evaluate different types of reasoning;
- find and state crucial unstated assumptions in reasoning;
- evaluate factual claims or statements used in reasoning and evaluate the sources of evidence for such claims; and
- locate, retrieve, organize, analyze, synthesize, and communicate information of relevance to the subject matter of the course.

Community/ Global Consciousness & Responsibility

Demonstrate social perceptiveness through the following traits: respect, citizenship, cultural awareness, interpersonal skills, ethics, teamwork, environmental literacy, lifelong learning, community service, self-esteem, integrity, empathy.

Learning Outcomes

- recognize conflicts between ethical value systems and distinguish ethical dilemmas from other conflicts;
- identify the major values and issues involved in personal life and life in society, including the nature, scope, and limits of human freedom, creativity, and responsibility;
- evaluate personal moral judgments and the moral judgments of others by recognizing an ethical issue, analyzing the rationales for different value choices, making an informed judgment based on that analysis, and assessing the implications of decisions made on the basis of values;
- assess a set of values for internal consistency, infer personal values from behavior, adopt and be aware of the ethical values involved in their positions, and understand how one's own moral beliefs differ from those of others;
- illustrate an understanding of major ethical principles, theories and traditions, and an awareness of the differing consequences which can result from the application of the major ethical theories to selected contemporary moral issues;
- understand and exhibit tolerance for the relativity and plurality of human values and beliefs, especially the multicultural values represented in society and the interdependence of the world's people in the evaluation of value conflicts;
- assess the ethical implications inherent in the practice of academic disciplines or professions and the important biological, economic, and environmental consequences resulting from the application of such values.
- place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts;
- identify the dynamics of ethnic, cultural, gender/sexual, age-based, class, regional, national, transnational, and global identities and the similarities, differences, linkages, and interactions between them; and
- evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues.

Wellness

Demonstrate skills and behaviors conducive to a healthy life and engage in structured psychomotor activity.

Learning Outcomes

- develop and maintain a healthy lifestyle which encourages regular physical activity for increased self-satisfaction and self-esteem;
- engage in activities which will encourage participation by individuals in activities that benefit health, recreation, and personal satisfaction in their daily lives;
- identify and examine the major contemporary health issues of society, explore their impact on the individual as well as society, and investigate the method of prevention and control;
- identify their own health requirements and the methods needed to acquire a healthy lifestyle.
- assess and clarify personal values, and to formulate achievable, measurable, and challenging goals consistent with personal values;
- recognize personal strengths and limitations and employ strategies to capitalize on personal strengths and compensate for personal limitations;
- effectively use time management principles to manage the competing responsibilities encountered in their personal and academic lives;
- receive and use criticism constructively for themselves and to give constructive criticism for the betterment of others;
- adapt and use efficient learning techniques to acquire and apply new knowledge and skills;
- realize enhanced self-esteem as a result of their college experience;
- recognize and connect the elements complexity of human beings: their behavior, institutions, history, diverse societies, languages, and race relationships;
- apply their knowledge of human relationships in the development and enhancement of their own interpersonal relationships.
- recognize the physiological, social/cultural, and psychological influences on their well-being;
- recognize the interrelation of the physiological, social/cultural, and psychological factors on their development across the lifespan;
- use appropriate social skills to enhance learning and develop positive interpersonal relationships with diverse groups and individuals; and
- recognize themselves as individuals undergoing a particular stage of human development and recognize how their well-being is affected by the university's academic and social systems, and how they can facilitate their development within the university environment.