

Learning Outcomes for General Education

USF St. Petersburg

A. English Composition:¹

1. Students will demonstrate rhetorical knowledge by focusing on audience, purpose, context, medium, and message;
2. Students will demonstrate critical thinking, reading, and writing by developing writing over time through a series of tasks including finding, evaluating, analyzing, and synthesizing sources into their own ideas, and discussing language, power, and knowledge;
3. Students will demonstrate composing processes through prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing individually and with peers in a range of composing media;
4. Students will demonstrate knowledge of conventions by controlling tone, mechanics, and documentation in a variety of common formats and genres.

Note: ¹On 8.11.08, the IEC approved the following changes to English Composition learning outcomes.

B. Quantitative Methods:

1. Demonstrate the ability to estimate and to apply arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and statistics appropriately to solve problems, and an awareness of the relevance of these skills to a wide range of disciplines.
2. Demonstrate the ability to represent and evaluate mathematical information numerically, graphically and symbolically.
3. Demonstrate the ability to comprehend mathematical arguments, formulas, and graphical representations, and use these to answer questions, understand the significance of the results and judge their reasonableness.

C. Natural Sciences:²

1. Demonstrate an appreciation and understanding of the scientific method of inquiry
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the evidence, ideas, and models that scientists use to make judgments about the natural world.
3. Demonstrate how the ideas and models of the natural sciences relate to societal issues including ethics.

Note: ²On 9.30.08, the IEC approved the following changes to Natural Sciences learning outcomes.

D. Social Sciences:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the methods that social scientists use to investigate the human condition and to formulate basic questions about the nature of social organizations and institutions.
2. Demonstrate knowledge about the role played by factors such as race, age, gender, ethnicity, economic status, environment, etc., in influencing human social interaction.
3. Demonstrate awareness of the ethical dimensions of human behavior and the formation of social, cultural and /or religious values.

E. Historical Perspectives:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the history of human civilizations, societies and cultures, and an awareness of the human experience and its applicability to the contemporary world through study of political, social, cultural, environmental, and intellectual issues in pre-modern and modern eras.
2. Demonstrate the ability to situate primary historical records in their proper contexts and use these sources to construct historical arguments.

F. Fine Arts:

1. Demonstrate the ability to explain the social, historical, cultural, intellectual and/or ethical contexts of works of creative expression.
2. Demonstrate some knowledge of the stylistic analysis, appropriate vocabulary, symbolism and techniques appropriate to the study of the fine arts and an understanding of the tradition and achievement of the creative process.
3. Demonstrate awareness of the relationship of the fine arts to everyday life.

G. African , Latin American, Middle Eastern or Asian Perspectives:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of one of the above regions through analysis of examples of those regions/countries' historical or contemporary social, political, economic, environmental, and/or cultural life.
2. Demonstrate understanding of contemporary interconnections between these regions related to one or more global issues, themes and/or conflicts.

H. Major Works & Major Issues:

1. Demonstrate the knowledge of the impact of one or more of the following on the major issues of a particular discipline: culture, environment, race, gender, and/or values and ethics.
2. Demonstrate the ability to critically analyze the primary texts and major documents or works (including visual and musical) of a particular discipline within appropriate context.

I. Literature and Writing:

1. Demonstrate the ability to write a well organized and well substantiated analysis of primary literature and crucial sources in a particular discipline.
2. Demonstrate the ability to determine the nature and extent of information needed, evaluate information and sources critically, and write persuasively through the effective use of evidence derived from credible information sources.

Notes: Courses that are listed in a GE Area must address at least one learning outcome in that area.
Courses that are listed in multiple GE areas must address at least one learning outcome in each GE Area.