

Dominican University

University-wide Student Learning Goals

Preface

Assessing student learning is the process of collecting information in order to ascertain the extent to which students' educational experiences at the university are producing the desired result and ideally inform the academic unit as to how student learning can be improved.

UNIVERSITY -WIDE STUDENT LEARNING GOALS

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Mission Statement

As a Sinsinawa Dominican sponsored institution, Dominican University prepares students to pursue truth, to give compassionate service and to participate in the creation of a more just and humane world.

Goal Statements

1. Knowledge Depth and Breadth

Students will develop a significant level of mastery with a major field of study and develop an appropriate degree of literacy in other disciplines

Operational definition: “significant level of mastery” is defined as possessing a requisite set of content knowledge and an understanding of the key concepts and principles plus the requisite skill set (e.g., psychomotor, intellectual, etc.) commonly associated with the discipline. “Literacy” is defined as having some basic knowledge and skills so as to be functional within a particular area (e.g., scientific literacy, computer literacy, information literacy, etc.)

2. Critical Thinking

Students will develop the necessary skills to think critically.

Operational definition: “to think critically” is defined as the intellectual process of analyzing, applying, synthesizing and/or evaluating information collected and/or generated through observation, experience, reflection, reasoning, or communication so as to reach an answer, make a prediction, or draw a conclusion.

3. Communication

Students will be able to communicate effectively.

Operational definition: “communicate effectively” is defined as the ability to convey meaning (either verbally or in writing) to a particular audience.

4. Global Citizenship

Students will develop as global citizens.

Operational definition: “develop as global citizens” means that students will demonstrate the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and actions associated with being a Globally Positioned Student. This includes, but is not limited to, the development of the cultural competencies necessary for engaging the multiplicity of human perspectives and differences with authentic empathy.

See Appendix A for fuller descriptions of the terms: knowledge, skills, attitudes, and actions.

* Denotes goals that are academic priorities

5. Civic Engagement/Social Responsibility

Students will demonstrate socially responsible behavior and civic engagement.

Operational definition: "social responsibility" and "civic engagement" together reflect acting and/or participating in events that address issues of public concern, so as to benefit society at large. A necessary aspect of acting in a socially responsible manner and/or participating in civic engagement involves demonstrating and adhering to moral and ethical principles, especially those associated with the Sinsinawa Dominican tradition.

6. Integrative/Interdisciplinary Inquiry*

Students will have the knowledge of and the ability to conduct integrative/interdisciplinary inquiry.

Operational definition: "integrative/interdisciplinary inquiry" is defined as the process of combining information/experiences, data, techniques, tools, perspectives, concepts, and/or theories from across different contexts.

7. Research and Scholarship

Student will have the knowledge base and skill set necessary for conducting research and/or scholarship in a particular area of study.

Operational definition: "research and/or scholarship" is defined as the systematic implementation of intellectual inquiry to advance the knowledge base of a particular field of study and the dissemination of this knowledge through either publications or presentations.

8. Catholic

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