CURRENT PROGRAMMATIC GOAL FROM CATALOG

All students studying toward a baccalaureate degree at Shawnee State are required to complete the University’s General Education Program (GEP). This group of courses gives students the opportunity to acquire the characteristics of an educated person—something quite distinct from the goals of other courses associated with the degree programs offered by Shawnee State. Most courses required for a specific degree program are meant to give students the opportunity to study a particular discipline and the ability to practice a profession. The goal of Shawnee State University, however, goes beyond professional education to preparing you to function effectively in the multiple roles demanded by contemporary life. In this respect, the General Education Program supports the University’s mission statement.

The GEP is a combination of required and elective courses, grouped in categories, each chosen for the contribution it makes to the skills or knowledge characteristic of university graduates. Shawnee State’s General Education Program is committed to:

- Providing an undergraduate education that includes competence in written communication, oral communication, scientific and quantitative reasoning, critical analysis, and logical thinking.
- Providing a breadth of knowledge that goes beyond education for a specific discipline or profession.
- Providing a breadth of experience that includes knowledge and understanding of multicultural factors.
- Ensuring that you have the ability to reflect carefully upon ethical issues and can enter into reasoned dialogue about these issues.
- Preparing you to become an independent and continuing learner.

As part of our commitment to the success of our students, Shawnee State University has adopted the goal of integrating information literacy and computer literacy into the courses included in the General Education Program.

CURRENT CATEGORY GOALS

English Composition
- write clearly, concisely, and creatively in a variety of formats

Fine and Performing Arts
- appreciation of how the arts contribute to an enriched quality of life

Quantitative Reasoning
- active communication
- critical thinking
- use of mathematical-related technology
- emphasis on problem-solving
- data analysis
- application of mathematics to a variety of disciplines
- activity-based learning

Social Sciences
- expose students to at least one discipline within the social sciences
- expose students to methodologies used in the social sciences
- apply of social sciences concepts to contemporary life.

Ethics
- function effectively in the multiple roles demanded by contemporary life
- introduction to the most influential moral theories of Western civilization
- learn how these moral theories affect how we think about public life
- thorough and careful analysis of contemporary moral issues in order to arrive at a rationally defensible, well-informed conclusion in a context of open and civil dialogue with others
- ethical reasoning

Cultural Perspectives
- understand aspects of culture from humanistic and social science perspectives
• appreciate the multicultural nature of modern society
• comprehension of the complex historical, cultural, or sociological contexts which inform contemporary experience.

For Western Cultural Perspectives
• describe and explain major philosophical, religious, social, or cultural ideas, theories, and movements central to the development of Western civilization;
• explain and analyze how these ideas developed across time, including transitions between at least two of the following periods: the Classical Greco-Roman Period, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance/Reformation, the Scientific Revolution, the Enlightenment, the Industrial Revolution, and the 20th century;
• apply their historical and cultural understanding to contemporary culture, and analyze and evaluate how at least some of these ideas, etc., affect the way we think and live today

For Non-Western Cultural Perspectives
Students will be able to:
• describe and explain major philosophical, religious, social, or cultural ideas, theories, and movements central to the understanding of at least one non-Western civilization;
• apply their historical and cultural understanding to contemporary culture, and analyze and evaluate how at least some of these ideas affect how Western and non-Western cultures understand one another, and the way Western and non-Western cultures interact.

Capstone
• write, speak, think, analyze, synthesize, and integrate