



GVSU's General Education Program has a traditional "cafeteria" style program where students select courses from various categories. The three major components of the program are the Foundations, Cultures, and Issues. Through the program, students learn about the foundational knowledge of the major areas of human investigation (Foundations - eight courses in seven categories including Arts, Historical Perspectives, Life Sciences, Mathematical Sciences, Philosophy and Literature, Physical Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences), knowledge of diversity within the U.S. and cultures outside of the U.S. (Cultures - two courses in two categories), and connecting and integrating a student's coursework to problems that the world faces (Issues – 2 upper division courses).

The General Education Program includes nearly all of AAC&U's Essential Learning Outcomes including collaboration, ethical reasoning, problem solving, quantitative literacy, oral communication, written communication, information literacy, critical and creative thinking, and integration. Each of the categories in the General Education Program teaches and assesses two or three of the Essential Learning Outcomes.

Each course in the General Education Program is assessed once every three years. GVSU modified the AAC&U VALUE rubrics and faculty use these rubrics to assess student learning in each course in the General Education Program. Campus efforts are underway to develop civic engagement and global learning rubrics unique to our campus.

Student Affairs uses the same student learning outcomes for many of their co-curricular programs as the General Education student learning outcomes. By the end of the year we hope to make the General Education student learning outcomes become the campus student learning outcomes for all undergraduates.

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