

Essential Learning Goals

The City University of New York

Preamble

General education at the City University of New York (CUNY) should provide students with well-rounded knowledge, a critical appreciation of diverse cultural and intellectual traditions, an interest in relating the past to the complex world in which they live today, and the ability to help society create a fresh and enlightened future. General education must also develop students' intellectual curiosity and commitment to lifelong learning. The purpose of the first thirty credits of the Common Core of general education at CUNY is to expose students to a broad range of knowledge and skills described below, enabling them to engage in more sophisticated study and analysis at successively higher levels as they complete their degrees.

Knowledge of Diverse Cultures and the Physical and Natural World

- Through study drawing upon the sciences and mathematics, social sciences, humanities, histories, languages, and the arts

Intellectual and Practical Skills

- Inquiry and analysis
- Written, oral, and visual communication
- Critical reading and critical thinking
- Mathematical and quantitative literacy
- Cultural and aesthetic literacy
- Research, technological literacy, and information literacy
- Collaborative and creative problem solving
- Ability to integrate knowledge from diverse sources and methods of inquiry

Social Awareness

- Ethical reasoning
- Awareness of and engagement with local, national, and global issues
- Intercultural knowledge and competence