



# ASSESSMENT NEWS

December 2016/January 2017

## General Education

That part of a liberal education curriculum that is shared by all students. It provides broad exposure to multiple disciplines and forms the basis for developing essential intellectual, civic, and practical capacities. General education can take many forms, and increasingly includes introductory, advanced, and integrative forms of learning.

Association of American Colleges & Universities

## Dates to Remember:

Jan. 13 — Full-time faculty spring syllabi are due to be submitted in Department Course Shells

May 16 — Full-time faculty spring '17 Instructor Assessment Report Due

May 28 — Spring '17 artifacts due to department chairs from the areas of Math, Science, Public Speaking and Humanities.

August 18 — All faculty syllabi due in Canvas

**Assessment  
Coordinator**

**Nancy Zenger  
-Beneda**

**nzbeneda  
@cloud.edu**

**785-243-1435  
Ext. 242**

## Department Chairs

Agriculture: Jamieson Gross [jgross@cloud.edu](mailto:jgross@cloud.edu) ext. 273

Business: Shelly Farha [sfarha@cloud.edu](mailto:sfarha@cloud.edu) ext. 260

Communications: Marc Malone [mmalone@cloud.edu](mailto:mmalone@cloud.edu) ext. 343

Fine Arts: Brent Phillips [bphillips@cloud.edu](mailto:bphillips@cloud.edu) ext. 244

Math: Mark Whisler [mwhisler@cloud.edu](mailto:mwhisler@cloud.edu) ext. 221

Nursing: Krista Bryant [kbryant@cloud.edu](mailto:kbryant@cloud.edu) ext. 330

Science: Dr. Craig Lamb [clamb@cloud.edu](mailto:clamb@cloud.edu) ext. 717

Social Science: Beth Whisler [bwhisler@cloud.edu](mailto:bwhisler@cloud.edu) ext. 262

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## HLC Assumed Practice Regarding General Education

3.B The institution demonstrates that the exercise of intellectual inquiry and the acquisition, application, and integration of broad learning and skills are integral to its educational programs.

1. The general education program is appropriate to the mission, educational offerings, and degree levels of the institution.
2. The institution articulates the purposes, content, and intended learning outcomes of its undergraduate general education requirements. The program of general education is grounded in a philosophy or framework developed by the institution or adopted from an established framework. It imparts broad knowledge and intellectual concepts to students and develops skills and attitudes that the institution believes every college-educated person should possess.
3. Every degree program offered by the institution engages students in collecting, analyzing, and communicating information; in mastering modes of inquiry or creative work; and in developing skills adaptable to changing environments.
4. The education offered by the institution recognizes the human and cultural diversity of the world in which students live and work.
5. The faculty and students contribute to scholarship, creative work, and the discovery of knowledge to the extent appropriate to their programs and the institution's mission.

## Higher Learning Commission Criteria For Accreditation

### General Education Committee Recommends a New General Education Philosophy

The group reviewed the changes made by the assessment committee to the general education philosophy draft. There was discussion concerning the difference between teaching skills for employment and employment responsibilities. The group agreed to leave the statement more general and use outcomes to then describe specific skill. The group agreed to accept the changes made by the assessment committee on the first sentence of the draft.

The group reviewed the addition of "attitude" to the philosophy and recommendations from Instructional Services. They also reviewed HLC criteria and discussed the attitudes college students should be expected to have then they made changes to the section of the philosophy referencing "attitudes." The group reviewed the recommendation to change landscape to environments. They found the word "environments" used in HLC criterion and agreed to make the change.

The final recommendation for the college general education philosophy statement:

**General Education expands students' understanding of the world and prepares them for civic, social, and employment responsibilities. General education advances students' abilities to function in diverse and dynamic environments by enhancing communication, stimulating critical thinking, exploring modes of inquiry, developing creative work, fostering constructive attitudes regarding learning, and promoting academic literacy.**

### Assessment Committee

The assessment committee met 12-12-16 and made recommendations for the general education philosophy.

The committee will meet January 19th and begin a review of assessment reports.