

ITASCA COMMUNITY COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Itasca Community College affirms its commitment to a broad and coherent foundation of general education which is fundamental to educational opportunity, individual enrichment, and citizenship. Our graduates will acquire the intellectual and practical essentials to create and adapt to our diverse society, now and in the future. These essentials include skills in or knowledge of:

- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Technology
- Mathematical / Scientific Reasoning
- Citizenship and Ethics
- Diversity

ICC Foundational (Level 1) General Education Goals and Outcomes

Communication

Goal: To develop students' skills in the use of written and oral language in the various contexts of personal and professional life.

Students will be able to:

- Read, evaluate, synthesize and apply information from a variety of sources.
- Understand/demonstrate the writing and speaking processes through planning, organizing, drafting, revising, and editing.
- Write and speak clearly, concisely, and accurately in a variety of contexts and formats.
- Employ appropriate language use, vocabulary and mechanics in academic, professional, and personal settings.
- Participate effectively in groups with emphasis on listening, critical, and reflective thinking and responding.

Critical Thinking

Goal: To increase students' abilities to engage in and apply effective critical/creative thinking and reasoning skills to personal and professional decision-making, problem-solving, and evaluative reasoning.

Students will be able to:

- Identify a problem/issue/concept.
- Gather/generate information and/or ideas.
- Analyze the connections among the ideas, facts, goals, and implicit assumptions relevant to a solution.
- Formulate solutions and/or processes and identify potential consequences.
- Select and implement a solution, process, or decision.
- Evaluate and modify the solution, process, or decision as appropriate.

Information Technology

Goal: To develop students' skills in and knowledge of computers and other technology.

Students will be able to:

- Perform basic keyboarding skills.
- Perform basic word processing skills.
- Access and manipulate information electronically.
- Define basic computer terminology and functions.
- Use technological equipment.

Mathematical / Scientific Reasoning

Mathematical Reasoning Goal: To increase students' skills in and knowledge of mathematical and logical modes of thinking.

Students will be able to:

- Use critical thinking skills to solve mathematical problems.
- Solve problems using appropriate mathematical methods.
- Demonstrate ability to apply mathematical reasoning in a variety of disciplines.
- Demonstrate an increased level of confidence in their own mathematical abilities.

Scientific Reasoning Goal: To improve students' understanding of scientific principles and of the methods of scientific inquiry.

Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of scientific principles, vocabulary, and the methods of scientific inquiry and communication of results.
- Demonstrate the ability to collect and analyze data and use critical thinking to interpret experimental results.

Citizenship and Ethics

Goal: To develop students' capacity to understand the ways in which they can exercise responsible and productive citizenship.

Students will be able to:

- Analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of legal, social, or scientific issues.
- Examine, articulate and apply their own ethical views.
- Participate in an opportunity for civic engagement.

Diversity

Goal: To increase student's understanding and acceptance of individual and group differences (e.g. cultures, race, gender, sexual orientation, age, class).

Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate interpersonal skills necessary for living and working effectively in a society with great population diversity.
- Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts, and beliefs regarding human diversity.