

College of the Redwoods

General Education Outcomes Assessment Plan

Approved Fall Semester 2020

College of the Redwoods defines and ensures student achievement of general education learning outcomes in order to meet and exceed standards of academic quality as defined by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). Our plan includes a) the alignment (“mapping”) of Course Student Learning Outcomes (CLOs) with specific Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) and related General Education Outcomes (GEOs), b) the assessment planning cycle, where student learning outcome assessment is distributed over a four-year period, and c) documentation of meaningful and ongoing outcome assessment, related dialogue, and consequent action. This is done to promote “academic quality and continuous improvement through ongoing assessment of learning and achievement and pursues institutional excellence and improvement through ongoing, integrated planning and evaluation [of] student learning at all levels and to promote authentic assessment and continuous quality improvement” (ACCJC Accreditation Standards 2014, p. 1 –See also Standard II.A. Sections 3, 11, & 12).

Key elements of the plan include the following:

- CLOs serve as the basis for PLO assessment, which in turn serve as the basis for GEO assessment;
- The content of each GE course is required to align with the GE area description as it is defined in the College Catalog and Board Policy 4025;
- At least one CLO for each GE course is required to map to at least one of the GE area-specific outcomes (or sub-areas in the case of Area D);
- All GEOs will have at least one related GE course CLO mapped to it;
- Cumulative assessment results of mapped CLOs and PLOs will be used to assess achievement of GEOs;
- The cumulative assessment results from mapped GE courses may also be part of the evidence used to evaluate the *effective communication* and *analytical thinking* components of Institutional Learning Outcome 1 (ILO #1: Academic and Career Technical Objectives);
- General Education Outcome assessment is conducted on a four-year cycle to ensure all outcomes are covered on a routine basis.

General Education Outcomes

Area A – Natural Sciences

1. communicate scientific ideas;
2. apply scientific concepts to analyze natural relationships.

Area B – Social Sciences

1. communicate intellectual ideas related to the social sciences;
2. apply social science methods to analyze experiences, behaviors and concepts within social, historical, political, anthropological or psychological contexts (these may include gender, ethnicity, race, economic status, sexuality).

Area C – Humanities

1. communicate aesthetic and/or cultural ideas within the context of diverse local or global communities;
2. analyze ideas or practices specific to the influence of culture on human expression.

Area D – Language, Communication and Rationality

Area D1- Writing.

1. generate, compose, revise and communicate ideas clearly in writing;
2. analyze ideas presented in writing, media, speech or artistic representations.

Area D2 – Oral Communication

1. generate, compose, revise and communicate ideas clearly;
2. analyze ideas presented in writing, media, speech or artistic representations.

Area D3 – Analytical Thinking

1. communicate analytical and/or computational ideas;
2. apply analytical and/or computational concepts to analyze relationships.