General Education Goals and Outcomes

This document displays all SDBOR general education goals and student learning outcomes, reproduced from SDBOR Administrative Guidelines 8.3 and 8.4.

Goal 1:
Students will write effectively and responsibly and will understand and interpret the written expression of others.

1. Student Learning Outcomes: As a result of taking courses meeting this goal, students will:
   a. Write using standard American English, including correct punctuation, grammar, and sentence structure,
   b. Write logically,
   c. Write persuasively, with a variety of rhetorical strategies (e.g., expository, argumentative, descriptive), and
   d. Incorporate formal research and documentation into their writing, including research obtained through modern, technology-based research tools.

Goal 2:
Students will communicate effectively and responsibly through listening and speaking.

1. Student Learning Outcomes: As a result of taking courses meeting this goal, students will:
   a. Prepare and deliver speeches for a variety of audiences and settings
   b. Demonstrate speaking competencies including usage, presentational aids, and delivery, and
   c. Demonstrate listening competencies by summarizing, analyzing, and paraphrasing ideas, perspectives and emotional content.

Goal 3:
Students will understand the organization, potential, and diversity of the human community through study of the social sciences.

1. Student Learning Outcomes: As a result of taking courses meeting this goal, students will:
   a. Identify and explain basic concepts, terminology, and theories of the selected social science disciplines from different spatial, temporal, cultural, and/or institutional contexts,
   b. Apply selected social science concepts and theories to contemporary issues, and
   c. Identify and explain the social or aesthetic values of different cultures

2. In addition, as a result of taking courses meeting this goal, students will be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of at least one of the following:
   a. The origin and evolution of human institutions,
   b. The allocation of human or natural resources within societies, and
   c. The impact of diverse philosophical, ethical, or religious views.
Goal 4:
Students will understand the diversity and complexity of the human experience through study of the arts and humanities.

1. Student Learning Outcomes: As a result of taking courses meeting this goal, students will:
   a. Demonstrate knowledge of the diversity of values, beliefs, and ideas embodied in the human experience, and
   b. Identify and explain basic concepts of the selected disciplines within the arts and humanities.

2. In addition, as a result of taking courses meeting this goal, students will be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of at least one of the following:
   a. Identify and explain the contributions of other cultures from the perspective of the selected disciplines within the arts and humanities,
   b. Demonstrate creative and aesthetic understanding,
   c. Explain and interpret formal and stylistic elements of the literary or fine arts, and
   d. Demonstrate foundational competency in reading, writing, and speaking a non-English language.

Goal 5:
Students will understand and apply fundamental mathematical processes and reasoning.

1. Student Learning Outcomes: As a result of taking courses meeting this goal, students will:
   a. Use mathematical symbols and mathematical structure to model and solve real world problems,
   b. Demonstrate appropriate communication skills related to mathematical terms and concepts, and

Goal 6:
Students will understand the fundamental principles of the natural sciences and apply scientific methods of inquiry to investigate the natural world.

1. Student Learning Outcomes: As a result of taking courses meeting this goal, students will:
   a. Demonstrate the scientific method in a laboratory experience,
   b. Gather and critically evaluate data using the scientific method,
   c. Identify and explain the basic concepts, terminology and theories of the selected natural sciences, and
   d. Apply selected natural science concepts and theories to contemporary issues.