



Imagine the Possibilities

Learning Outcomes and General Education

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Imagination Initiatives

Graduating Students Who Are Ready to Make a Difference

- Exceptional Student Experience
- Integrative Minors
- Best Practices
- Task Force to Re-Imagine General Education



Imagine the Possibilities

transforming the undergraduate experience

The Office of Undergraduate Studies needs your ideas about how to transform our general education program.

You are invited to a special Town Hall meeting designed to engage faculty, staff, and students in transformative conversations about general education.

Monday, October 17, 12:00 PM

Union—Panorama East (lunch provided)

Wednesday, October 19, 8:00 AM

Marriott Library—Gould Auditorium (light breakfast served)

We hope you can attend one of these meetings. As someone with a demonstrated commitment to undergraduate education, we value your input.

Please RSVP to f.cardenas@utah.edu



Task Force to Re-Imagine General Education presents...

- Eric Liu
 - “Imagination in a 21st Century Education”:
November 30: 5:30 –
7:00; Dumke
Auditorium, Marriott
Library



What are learning outcomes?

Learning outcomes help us create common ground understanding about student success.

General Ed Learning Outcomes, pt 1

A. Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World

1. Knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world through study in the sciences and mathematics, social sciences, humanities, histories, languages, and the arts

Focused by engagement with big questions, both contemporary and enduring

B. Intellectual and Practical Skills, including

2. Inquiry and analysis
3. Critical thinking
4. Creative thinking
5. Written communication
6. Oral communication
7. Quantitative literacy
8. Information literacy
9. Teamwork
10. Problem solving

Practiced extensively, across the curriculum, in the context of progressively more challenging problems, projects, and standards for performance

General Ed Learning Outcomes, pt 2

C. Personal and Social Responsibility, including

11. Civic knowledge and engagement
12. Intercultural knowledge and competence
13. Ethical reasoning and action
14. Foundations and skills for lifelong learning

Anchored through active involvement with diverse communities and real-world challenges

D. Integrative Learning

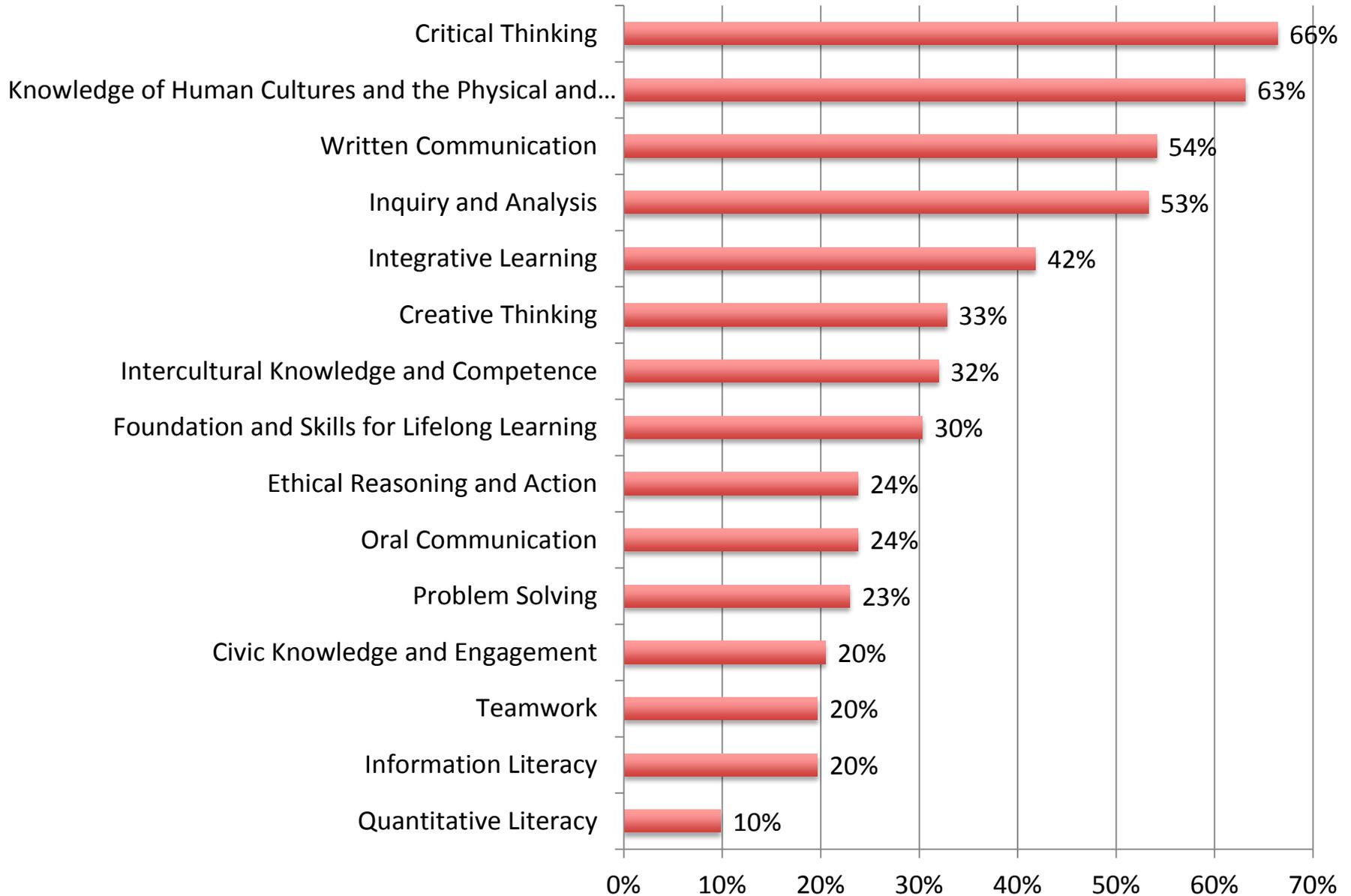
15. Integrative learning, including synthesis and advanced accomplishment across general and specialized studies

Demonstrated through the application of knowledge, skills, and responsibilities to new settings and complex problems

Learning Outcomes in Gen Ed

- Approved three years ago
- Pilot tested
- Added to the Gen Ed application Fall 2009.
- 284 courses have been reviewed. Here are the outcomes selected for those courses:

Percent of 284 Courses Selecting Each Outcome Fall 2009-Spring 2011





Examples of Assignments for Measuring Learning Outcomes

- 1. Creative Thinking and Problem Solving:** The creative composition project is done in teams of two people (or as a solo). The task is to develop a composed music activity using rhythm, melody, and instruments.



Examples of Assignments for Measuring Learning Outcomes

2. Inquiry and Analysis, Critical Thinking:

“Students are provided pre-designed data sheets and asked to develop an ethnogram before coding observational behavior from a sample video of rhesus macaques. Students then summarize and analyze these data using descriptive statistics, compare their results to my control data, calculate inter-observer reliability, and finally interpret the results.”



Example – Integrating Learning Outcomes into Course Feedback Q's

- Outcomes built into International requirement criteria and student course evaluations.
- 1. “The course deepened my understanding of the political, economic, social and/or cultural connections between and among nations.”
- 2. The course provided me with new ways of thinking about contemporary international issues or the relevance of historical approaches to these issues.



Moving Forward

- This process puts us in an excellent starting position.
- We are here to respond to your questions and get your input.



Moving Forward con't

- If you want to remain involved in this conversations, please email one or both of us
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