General Education Program

Essential Learning Outcomes and Current Course listings

Civic Knowledge and Engagement

Student Learning Outcome: Graduates of D’Youville’s General Education Program will be prepared to participate in activities of personal and public concern that are both individually life enriching and socially beneficial to the community.

Civic Knowledge and Engagement courses: Life Unpacked (FYE-100), Writing for Social Justice (IMA-236) American Government & Economics (PSC-201)

Critical Analysis

Student Learning Outcome: Graduates of D’Youville’s General Education Program will demonstrate a habit of mind characterized by the comprehensive exploration of issues, ideas, artifacts, and events before accepting or formulating an opinion or conclusion.


Creative Thinking

Student Learning Outcome: Graduates of D’Youville’s General Education Program will have the capacity to combine or synthesize existing ideas, images, or expertise in original ways and be able to think, react, and work in imaginative ways characterized by a high degree of innovation, divergent thinking, and risk-taking.

Creative Thinking courses: Literature and the Brain (ENG-205), Introduction to Visual Culture (IMA-206), The Human Body in Art and Society (IMA-307), The Art of Film (IMA-314), Art & the Everyday (IMA-328)

Ethical Reasoning and Action

Student Learning Outcome: Graduates of D’Youville’s General Education Program will assess their own ethical values and the social context of problems, recognize ethical issues in a variety of settings, think about how different ethical perspectives might be applied to ethical dilemmas, and consider the ramifications of alternative actions.


Global Learning

Student Learning Outcome: Graduates of D’Youville’s General Education Program will analyze and explore complex global challenges, collaborate respectfully with diverse others, apply learning to take responsible action in contemporary global contexts, and evaluate the goals, methods, and consequences of that action. Through learning about the world as a collection of interdependent yet inequitable systems, our graduates will develop an enhanced sense of identity, community, ethics, and perspective that will foster their ability to advance equity and justice at home and abroad.

Global Learning courses: Growth of Western Culture (HIS-111), Variable Topics in History (HIS-420), Ethics: Religious and Philosophical Perspectives (PHI-103), Ethics: Religious and Philosophical Perspectives (RS-103), Principles of Sociology (SOC-101), Special Topics (SOC-389), Special Topics (SOC-390), Special Topics (SPA-289)

Cultural Competence

Student Learning Outcome: Graduates of D’Youville’s General Education Program will meaningfully engage with culturally different others; place social justice in historical and political context; and employ a set of cognitive, affective, and behavioral skills and characteristics that support effective and appropriate interaction in a variety of cultural contexts.

Cultural Competence courses: Humanities Seminar (ENG-112), Minority Voices in American Literature (ENG-218), Humanities Seminar (HIS-112), The Human Body in Art and Society (IMA-307), Gender and Media (IMA-301), Media and Culture (IMA-331) Special Topics (ITA-289)

Information Literacy

Student Learning Outcome: Graduates of D’Youville’s General Education Program will recognize when there is a need for information and be able to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively and responsibly use and share that information for the problem at hand. [Adopted form the National Forum on Information Literacy]

Information Literacy courses: Myth and Literature (ENG-317), Life Unpacked (FYE-100)

Quantitative Literacy

Student Learning Outcome: Graduates of D’Youville’s General Education Program will demonstrate the habit of mind to competently, confidently, and comfortably reason and solve quantitative problems from a wide array of authentic contexts and everyday life situations. They will understand and be able to create sophisticated arguments supported by quantitative evidence and clearly communicate those arguments in a variety of formats (for examples: using words, tables, graphs, and mathematical equations)

Quantitative Literacy courses: Macroeconomics (ECO-201), Microeconomics (ECO-202), Statistics (ECO-207), Special Topics (MAT-289)

Scientific Reasoning

Student Learning Outcome: Graduates of D’Youville’s General Education Program will employ systematic processes for exploring issues, objects, or works through the collection and analysis of evidence that results in informed conclusions or judgments. They will be able to break complex topics or issues into parts to view them from multiple perspectives and gain more in-depth understanding of them.
Scientific Reasoning courses: Biochemistry (CHE-303), Research Methods in Sociology (SOC-215)

Teamwork

Student Learning Outcome: Graduates of D’Youville’s General Education Program will adapt and control their own behaviors in cooperative and collaborative team settings, such as the effort they put into team tasks, their manner of interacting with others on their team, and the quantity and quality of contributions they make to team discussions and products.


Problem Solving

Student Learning Outcome: Graduates of D’Youville’s General Education Program will design, evaluate, and implement strategies to answer open-ended questions or achieve desired goals.

Problem Solving courses: Problem Solving for Chemistry 111/114 (CHE-115), Logic and Reasoning (PHI-204), Social Problems (SOC-201), Social Stratification (SOC-204)

Technological Competence

Student Learning Outcome: Graduates of D’Youville’s General Education Program will present and analyze electronic data; realize the grand, wide-reaching capabilities of electronic communications; and apply their knowledge to learn technologies that are unknown, new, or unique to their chosen career path.

Technological Competence courses: Special Topics (CSC-289)

Written Communication

Student Learning Outcome: Graduates of D’Youville’s General Education Program will compose and express their ideas clearly and concisely in writing in a variety of genres and styles. They will develop content for specific contexts, audiences, and purposes—to inform, persuade, or entertain—while following the conventions of genres and disciplines; and they will provide evidence from quality reputable sources to define, shape, explain, and argue with their ideas.

Written communication courses: Introduction to Literature: Acad Writing (ENG-111), Humanities Seminar (ENG-112) Writing for Social Justice (IMA-236)

Oral Communication

Student Learning Outcome: Graduates of D’Youville’s General Education Program will prepare and confidently deliver purposeful engaging informative or persuasive presentations designed to increase knowledge, foster understanding, or promote change in the listeners’ attitudes, values, beliefs, or behaviors. They will actively listen to others, acknowledge others’ ideas and perspectives, pose questions for clarification or more information, maintain professional composure, and pay attention to non-verbal cues in their own and others’ body language.

Sources: D’Youville’s student learning outcomes were adopted from the LEAP standards and were articulated using language from the VALUE rubrics, which are utilized to assess student learning in outcomes-aligned courses.