

Wartburg College COMMON LEARNING OUTCOMES

Broad & Integrative Knowledge

Students will demonstrate breadth of knowledge and the ability to make connections across a range of disciplines.

For example, students will be able to:

- use knowledge from different academic domains to understand a topic or research an issue.
- analyze and explain important patterns in the natural world, human behaviors, fine arts and humanities, and the intersections among them.
- use both quantitative and qualitative reasoning to analyze and interpret information.
- articulate connections between the content of an academic major and other fields.
- locate, evaluate, and effectively use a variety of information sources.

Deep & Distinctive Knowledge

Students will demonstrate depth of knowledge and the ability to use and apply the distinctive methods and forms of inquiry within the disciplinary area of the academic major.

For example, students will be able to:

- explain and apply key concepts within the field of study.
- use distinctive methods and forms of inquiry to investigate specific questions within the field.
- use critical thinking and problem-solving skills within the field.
- demonstrate an awareness of the historical, social, and ethical contexts that shape the field.
- locate, evaluate, and effectively use a variety of information sources specific to the field.

Collaboration

Students will work effectively in collaboration with others, being respectful and civil toward others.

For example, students will be able to:

- put aside self-interests in an effort to find common ground or achieve shared goals.
- exercise responsible stewardship in an effort to preserve resources and provide for the needs of others, recognizing the civic responsibility we have in allocating and using resources.
- express dissent or disagreement within a group setting in a manner that is constructive and respectful of differing viewpoints.
- identify situations which call for personal action and leadership as well as those that call for supporting the leadership taken by another.
- listen to and understand what others communicate, and express one's own ideas, based on more than one means of communication, including the use of different languages and other channels of communication.

Ethics & Engagement

Students will articulate the ways in which faith and ethics inform their decisions, actions, and engagement as community members.

For example, students will be able to:

- reflect on, discuss, and develop informed convictions about faith, ethics, and values.
- speak and act in ways that respect others and build community, for example by following the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.
- model and foster respectful dialogue and civil discourse.
- understand how faith shapes and informs values, relationships, decisions, and vocational choice.
- apply sustainable practices that support stewardship of local and global resources.

Communication

Students will communicate effectively and appropriately in writing and speaking.

For example, students will be able to:

- communicate effectively in their disciplines.
- write prose that is clear, well-constructed, and engaging.
- speak persuasively and confidently.
- locate, use, and cite information from appropriate sources.

Cultural Competence

Students will demonstrate the ability to appropriately, respectfully, and effectively communicate and work with people of diverse backgrounds and perspectives.

For example, students will be able to:

- utilize relevant and sensitive strategies in their communication and interaction with individuals from different backgrounds.
- articulate awareness of their own cultural worldviews, values, and norms.
- demonstrate knowledge of different cultural worldviews, values, and norms.
- advocate on behalf of the well-being of diverse populations with whom they may work.
- adjust constructively to changing social environments as the nature of diversity takes on new meanings in the future.

Note: The bullet points are illustrative of the abilities inherent in the outcome statement and elaborate on the meaning of the outcome. They are not intended to be an exhaustive list nor are they likely to remain static. Over time these descriptors may change as the nature of the stated learning outcome evolves in response to future developments in pedagogy and learning.