

Plan A: Revised Goals for General Education at UND
(a proposal from the GE Task Force Subcommittee on goals)

The University of North Dakota's General Education Program gives students the skills to thrive and to engage in lifelong learning in an increasingly complex, rapidly changing, and interdependent world. Ultimately, we hope that UND's graduates live a life of purpose with an ongoing curiosity about the world around them, and we believe that these intellectual skills will aid students in this endeavor. In addition, college graduates who can demonstrate communication skills, critical thinking skills, the ability to solve problems by applying knowledge to new situations, and the ability to work with and understand others are often sought by our nation's employers. These are skills that will be emphasized throughout the undergraduate curriculum; they provide a foundation for, complement, and enhance learning in the major and in professional degree programs.

Students will be able to **Communicate** effectively.

- Students can write with a sense of **purpose**
- Students can provide the **rhetorical cues** readers need to understand the students and their ideas
- Students can demonstrate a knowledge of **the conventions of writing**

Students will be able to demonstrate **Critical Thinking Skills**

- Students can articulate and can **focus** on an academic question
- Students can use **analysis** to explore the question
- Students can propose a **resolution** by considering alternate solutions and/or the broader implications of the question

Students will be able to engage in **Problem Solving**

- Students can apply the necessary **quantitative skills** when presented with a problem
- Students can **find the information** they need and can evaluate the credibility of that information
- Students can use and apply appropriate **technologies** as they work toward solutions

Students will be able to demonstrate the skills necessary for functioning in a **Diverse Society**

- Students can demonstrate an awareness of the ways **cultural perspective** shapes how and what we know
- Students can **apply academic issues to the larger world** through theory or practice
- Students can engage in **ethical reasoning**: they can reflect on how their decisions are shaped by their own intellectual commitments.