



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH

Liberal Education Reform Team

<http://www.uwosh.edu/projects/lert/lert.php>

The Liberal Education Reform Team is charged with presenting a framework for student learning outcomes to be adopted by the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. The following outcomes, based on those from the American Association of Colleges & Universities, are being proposed for campus-wide discussion and adoption.

Essential Learning Outcomes for Students

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh is committed to preparing students with the integrative learning skills, multi-cultural competencies, and practical knowledge needed to enjoy a high quality of life and to succeed in and contribute to our rapidly changing, increasingly global society. We expect that every student who receives a degree the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh will possess the following broad values and practical learning skills (outcomes) to be a successful, contributing member of an increasingly knowledge-based society.

Graduates from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh are graduates who

- apply **Integrative Learning** which includes synthesis, analysis, advanced accomplishment across general and specialized studies and the demonstrated capacity to adapt knowledge, skills, and responsibilities to new settings and questions.
- value **Personal and Social Responsibility** including civic knowledge and engagement (both local and global), intercultural knowledge and competence, ethical reasoning and action, foundation and skills for lifelong learning.
- have acquired **Intellectual and Practical Skills** such as critical and creative thinking, written and oral communication, quantitative literacy, information literacy, teamwork and problem solving.
- possess **Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Natural World** that is grounded in study of the sciences and mathematics, social sciences, humanities, histories, languages, and the arts.

Influenced by the Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) campaign developed by the Association of American Colleges, we refer both to learning "outcomes" and learning "values." This distinction relates in part to the assessment of student learning, recognizing that a liberal education will instill learning that may be immeasurable, at least in the short term. Such "values" are broad-based, perhaps more "philosophical," and reflect the entire human being rather than a single, observable outcome or capacity.

We at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh believe that students need a liberal education to meet these outcomes and values. A liberal education is one that includes broad exposure to multiple disciplines and ways of knowing, along with more in-depth study in at least one field or area of concentration.

Reference

College Learning for the New Global Century, AAC&U, January 2007
(http://www.aacu.org/advocacy/leap/documents/GlobalCentury_final.pdf)