

## General Education

A minimum of 20 units of general education is required for the A.A. or A.S. degree. Please note: One of the general education courses must be a cross-cultural studies course. Most cross-cultural studies courses will satisfy the Cross-Cultural Studies Requirement and one other general education requirement. If a cross-cultural studies course is not found in another general education category, then additional units of general education are needed to meet the A.A. or A.S. degree. Likewise, courses counted for two general education requirements may not be used to fulfill a major requirement.

### COLLEGE OF MARIN'S COMMITMENT TO AN EXCELLENT EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Students come to College of Marin to achieve a wide variety of goals, including obtaining foundational skills in Math, English and ESL, Career or Technical training, an A.A. or A.S. degree, and transfer, as well as for lifelong learning and cultural enrichment. No matter what a student's reasons are, the college is committed to the educational growth of all undergraduates and the development of the following academic skills that allow students to pursue any major:

#### **Communication (Written, Oral, Visual)**

Effectively and critically understand and communicate visually, in writing, and orally using traditional and/or modern information resources and supporting technology.

#### **Scientific and Quantitative Reasoning**

Locate, identify, collect, and organize data in order to then analyze, interpret or evaluate it using mathematical skills and/or the scientific method.

#### **Critical Thinking**

Differentiate between facts, influences, opinions, and assumptions to reach reasoned and supportable conclusions. Recognize and identify the components of a problem or issue, look at it from multiple perspectives, and investigate ways to resolve it.

#### **Information Literacy**

Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate and apply information from a variety of sources - print and/or electronic.

#### **Cultural Awareness and Community Engagement**

Become ethically responsible, equity-minded participants in society, informed and involved in civic affairs and environmental stewardship locally, nationally, and globally. Demonstrate understanding and appreciation of the diversity of cultural works, practices, and beliefs.

#### **Personal and Professional Development**

Engage in healthful living and wellness physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially; enhance skills for the workplace and marketplace.

These serve as both the College's college-wide outcomes and as the outcomes for our General Education Program.

### COLLEGE OF MARIN GENERAL EDUCATION STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

While college students choose a specific field of study, part of their educational experience and requirements include a program of general education. This well-rounded, student driven educational package is intended to be complementary to, but different in emphasis from, the specialized education received for a job or a profession, or from focusing on a particular field of study. By completing a general education program, students expand their knowledge of the content and methodologies in a variety of disciplines.

### College of Marin General Education Descriptors

#### **A. NATURAL SCIENCES**