Mesa College Institutional Learning Outcomes
Recommendations for Operational Definitions: February 18, 2014
Prepared by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness

The following are draft operational definitions for two of Mesa College's six institutional learning outcomes (ILOs). The definitions are derived from the discussion at the February 4, 2014, LATF meeting.

Communication ILO

Currently states: *Ability to articulate the critical thinking outcomes in writing and/or speaking or by other modes of communication.*

Suggested Change to Operational Definition
Students will demonstrate effective communication and comprehension skills. Examples will include, but are not limited to, the following:
- Comprehend, analyze, and respond appropriately to oral, written, and visual information.
- Effectively communicate/express information through speaking, writing, visual, and other modes of communication/expression appropriate to the context.

Critical Thinking ILO:

Currently States: *Ability to analyze problems, conceptualize theses, develop arguments, weigh evidence, and derive conclusions. This outcome includes both inductive and deductive logical reasoning and methodological processes.*

Suggested Change to Operational Definition
Students will be able to evaluate the credibility and significance of information, effectively interpret, analyze, synthesize, explain, and infer concepts and ideas; solve problems and make decisions; and construct and deconstruct arguments. Examples will include, but are not limited to, the following:
- Draw reasonable conclusions, based on evidence, to make decisions and solve problems.
- Apply accurate and logical analysis to achieve a reasonable outcome.
- Evaluate information or data for quality, validity and bias.

Mesa College Institutional Learning Outcomes Operationally Defined
Follow-Up to LATF Retreat and February 4, 2014 LATF Meeting
Prepared by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness

For Review at the March 4, 2014 LATF Meeting

Global Awareness:

Currently States: *Ability to articulate similarities and contrasts among cultures, times and environments, demonstrating understanding of cultural pluralism and knowledge of global issues.*

Suggested Change to Operational Definition
Students will be able to recognize the interconnectedness of global, national, and local concerns from multiple perspectives and demonstrate cultural competence. Examples will include, but are not limited to, the following:
- Act with sensitivity, respect, and integrity in interactions with individuals from diverse backgrounds, perspectives, and values.
- Evaluate the impact of global processes on others worldwide with an understanding of ethical obligations to respect, learn from and support the world's resources.

Personal Awareness and Civic Responsibility:

Currently States: *Ability to understand one's role in society, take responsibility for one's own actions, make ethical decisions in complex situations, and participate actively in a diverse democracy.*

Suggested Change to Operational Definition
Students will be able to identify their roles in society, take responsibility for their own actions, make ethical decisions, and become productive citizens. Examples will include, but are not limited to, the following:
- Self-assess knowledge, skills and abilities.
- Set personal, educational, and career goals.
- Work independently and collaboratively to achieve a common goal.
- Identify lifestyle choices that promote self-reliance, financial literacy and physical, mental, and social health.
- Take responsibility for the ethical implications of individual and collective action.

Self-Awareness and Interpersonal Skills:

Currently States: *Ability to analyze one's own actions, to see the perspective of other persons, and to work effectively with others in groups.*

Suggested Change to Operational Definition
Students will be able to analyze the impact of their own actions and work effectively with others in groups. Examples will include, but are not limited to, the following:
- Engage in meaningful relationships with peers, instructors, and others.
- Demonstrate cooperation and collaboration with others in academic, artistic, athletic, and other settings.

Technological Awareness:

Currently States: *Ability to understand the applications and implications of technology and to use technology in ways appropriate to the situation. This outcome includes information competency skills.*

Suggested Change to Operational Definition
Students will be able to effectively use technology to enhance learning. Examples will include, but are not limited to, the following:
- Maintain, improve, and apply academic and technical skills.
- Demonstrate life-long learning skills to acquire and employ new knowledge.
- Set goals and devise strategies for personal and professional development.
- Communicate effectively using technology.
- Adapt to changing technology.
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