



**ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
& ASSESSMENT**

USHE and UVU Essential Learning Outcomes

In a general education course, it is not necessary to have every course learning outcome (CLO) reference an essential learning outcome (ELO), nor is it necessary to include multiple ELOs in this course. Faculty should be selective and focus on only ELOs that are addressed to a significant level in a general education course.

USHE's Shared General Education ELOs

Information drawn from the USHE R470 Policy (December 1, 2023)

USHE's shared General Education ELOs should inform institutions' design of their general education programs at the program, area (core and breadth), and course level to offer an appropriate breadth, depth, and sequencing of learning. Program-level design shall ensure student demonstration of specific understanding and application of the following general education competencies:

- **Intellectual and Practical Skills:** These skills include inquiry and analysis, critical and creative thinking, written and oral communication, information literacy, teamwork and problem-solving, and practical skills such as visual, kinesthetic, design, and aural forms of artistic communication.
- **Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural Worlds:** Engagement with “big questions”—both contemporary and enduring—in the sciences, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, histories, languages, and the arts.
- **Personal and Social Responsibility:** Development of personal and social responsibilities, including ethical reasoning and actions, foundations and skills for lifelong learning, community and civic knowledge and engagement, involvement with diverse communities and real-world challenges, and local and global intercultural knowledge and competence.
- **Integrative Learning:** Demonstration of synthesis of learning and advanced accomplishment across coherent general and specialized studies and the application of knowledge, skills, and responsibilities to new settings and complex problems.

UVU's ELOs

The university's ELOs are a comprehensive set of learning goals that are fostered and developed across a student's educational experience at UVU. They reflect the foundational skills and competencies needed to meet the challenges of an ever-changing and complex world. The ELOs are introduced in general education courses and then reinforced and expanded in program learning outcomes (PLOs) and CLOs.

- **Communication:** Communicate facts and ideas.
 - To demonstrate competence in communication, students will appraise the needs of their audience; use sound evidence and reasoning in constructing arguments; and clearly and effectively communicate.
- **Critical Thinking:** Analyze ideas, information, and problems.
 - To demonstrate competence in critical thinking, students will question assumptions; evaluate ideas and problems in a systematic way; and appraise arguments for importance, logic, relevance, and strength.
- **Digital Literacy:** Use digital technologies.

- To demonstrate competence in digital literacy, students will leverage digital technologies to accomplish goals; engage effectively and ethically in a digital environment; and adapt to new and emerging technologies.
- Ethical Reasoning: Recognize and consider the ethical dimension of behavior.
 - To demonstrate competence in ethical reasoning, students will apply ethical principles and approaches; consider alternative courses of action and consequences; and evaluate and articulate their own ethical values.
- Inclusion: Understand and apply the principles of diversity, inclusion, and equity.
 - To demonstrate competence in inclusion, students will show cultural understanding; recognize issues of diversity, inclusion, and equity; and understand the importance of creating diverse and inclusive environments for all.
- Information Literacy: Collect, evaluate, organize, and use information.
 - To demonstrate competence in information literacy, students will find appropriate information to address a need; evaluate it for relevance and validity; and use it to draw conclusions and generate solutions.
- Quantitative Literacy: Communicate facts and ideas.
 - To demonstrate competence in quantitative literacy, students will solve problems using basic calculations; make judgements about and draw conclusions from quantitative evidence; and use quantitative strategies to support a position.
- Scientific Literacy: Understand scientific concepts and methods.
 - To demonstrate competence in scientific literacy, students will have a basic understanding of major scientific concepts and methods; apply scientific knowledge to daily life; and express scientifically informed positions.