University of San Diego
Undergraduate Learning Goals & Outcomes

Goal 1: Develop Knowledge about the Liberal Arts and Sciences:

Identify and explain major vocabularies and conceptual, theoretical and methodological foundations of sciences, social sciences, humanities and the arts. Students engage contemporary and enduring questions from these disciplines. (Outcome 1: knowledge)

Goal 2: Acquire and Apply Intellectual Skills:

Think abstractly and creatively, problem-solve, develop the ability to locate information, and to critically analyze this information. (Outcome 2: information literacy, Outcome 3: creative thinking, Outcome 4: critical thinking)

Demonstrate and apply analytical reasoning, and comprehend the application of mathematics, logic, and technology to other disciplines and areas of human endeavor (Outcome 5: analytic reasoning; Outcome 6: quantitative competency)

Develop the capacity to express oneself and interact with diverse others through writing, speaking, and using a second language (Outcome 7: communication)

Goal 3: Cultivate Personal and Social Responsibility:

Reflect on ethical issues across the curriculum as guides for personal development and responsible action. (Outcome 8: ethical judgment and conduct).

Explore the complex issues of both local and global cultures. Cultivate understanding of, and respect for, cultural diversity and religious traditions. Analyze one’s own background and perspectives within these contexts. (Outcome 9: cultural awareness and competence; Outcome 10: engagement)

Recognize the centrality of environmental sustainability. Develop an awareness of the intertwined nature (intertwined relationships/ interrelationship) of personal actions, social justice, and economic development, and their long-term implications for the environment. (Outcome 11: environmental awareness)

Goal 4: Integrate Patterns of Learning

Develop the ability to synthesize disparate areas of knowledge and courses of study through individual and collaborative learning. For example, integrate knowledge and skills through team-taught courses, capstone projects, performances, or interdisciplinary seminars as potential formats. (Outcome 12: synthesis of core curriculum outcomes)

Adapted from “Essential Learning Outcomes,” Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) Campaign, American Association of Colleges and Universities at: http://www.aacu.org/leap/vision.cfm, and many other lists of student learning outcomes from a wide variety of institutions.