

Draft Institutional Learning Outcomes

Created with feedback from 2022-2024 campus conversations

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1. Critical Thinking

Students demonstrate the ability to think critically and reason logically across disciplines to address complex societal issues.

A student who completes a course of study at Foothill College will be adept at applying logical and social reasoning, cultivating information and scientific literacy, demonstrating the ability to question, and practice self-evaluation and reflection. Students use reflective and innovative thinking to make informed decisions, solve problems, and communicate effectively.

- Identify credible sources and distinguish between evidence-based information and misinformation.
- Analyze multiple perspectives on a contemporary issue using logical and social reasoning.
- Evaluate arguments for validity, bias, and relevance using discipline-specific frameworks.
- Apply scientific or informational literacy skills to solve a real-world problem.
- Construct original solutions to complex questions by integrating reflective thinking and innovative strategies.

2. Prepared to Thrive in the Global Workforce

Students develop the skills and mindset necessary to adapt, lead, and collaborate in a diverse and evolving global workforce.

Foothill graduate's skill set incorporates leadership, agency, and the ability to successfully collaborate with a diverse peer group, supported by digital and communication literacy. It includes building confidence, emotional intelligence, empathy, cultural and emotional agility, and a sense of global responsibility – all essential for success in professional and intercultural contexts.

- Demonstrate effective communication in diverse professional or intercultural settings.
- Collaborate on team-based projects by practicing negotiation, leadership, empathy and shared responsibility.
- Assess one's emotional and cultural agility in response to professional or interpersonal challenges.
- Apply digital and information tools to complete a professional task or solve a workforce-related problem.
- Develop a plan for ethical leadership and responsible action in a global or multicultural context.

3. Engage in a Life of Inquiry

Students cultivate a lifelong commitment to learning, civic engagement, and ethical participation in diverse communities.

Students will leave Foothill with skills that allow them to be introspective, empathetic, and ethically aware, while demonstrating cultural, social, and systems awareness. Students will continue to engage with the evolving professional, cultural and political landscape by seeking out formal and informal opportunities for growth. Students develop a strong sense of place in community, embrace authenticity and vulnerability, and advocate for equity through creative, curious, and aware engagement with the world around them.

- Discuss how cultural, social, or systemic factors influence community issues and civic participation.
- Demonstrate empathy and ethical reasoning in responses to community dilemmas.
- Seek out formal and informal opportunities that support ongoing learning surrounding evolving professional, cultural, and political environments.
- Reflect on personal values, experiences, or biases in relation to learning and community engagement.
- Advocate for a community need or issue using evidence-based reasoning and authentic communication.

4. Personal Responsibility (proposed)

Students cultivate self-awareness, ethical decision-making, and the ability to act with integrity and empathy in diverse contexts.

Through their educational journey, students deepen their understanding of themselves, building confidence, resilience, and a sense of purpose. They learn to navigate challenges with adaptability and integrity, developing the capacity to self-evaluate, regulate their emotions, and make ethical choices. This growth fosters greater self-reliance, agency, and the courage to engage authentically and responsibly in a complex and evolving world.

- Demonstrate the ability to regulate emotions and behaviors in response to constructive feedback or difficult situations.
- Articulate ethical principles and personal values that guide decision-making in academic, social, or professional settings.
- Reflect on personal resilience, self-reliance, and ongoing personal development in relation to career and personal decisions.