GENERAL EDUCATION

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COMPETENCIES AND GOALS

As part of Essex County College's mission, the College seeks to transform lives so that students can achieve a better future through education. Essex students are thus empowered to become agents of change in their own lives, in their communities and in the world. Mastery of the general education courses prepares students with critical thinking, writing, problem solving, research and analytical skills that lay the foundation for academic excellence. Essex's comprehensive core of general education courses is affirmed by the State of New Jersey. These courses ensure that no matter the degree chosen, all Essex students will graduate with a comprehensive academic perspective, as well as the more specialized knowledge of the major course requirements.

Essex County College firmly believes that broad-based knowledge best prepares students for further education at four-year institutions, as well as for the demands of a competitive marketplace and the global economy. Therefore, depending on the degree and major chosen, students may take a number of courses in the following categories:



General Education Core Competencies

The following core competencies should, to the greatest extent possible, be embedded in all general education courses:

A. Written and Oral Communication in English:

Students will communicate effectively in oral, written, nonverbal, and visual media.

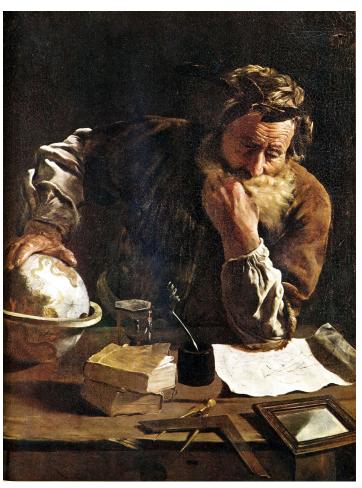


 Students will read, write, illustrate, and listen actively, critically, and reflectively and respond logically, informatively, persuasively, and creatively.

- Students will evaluate and revise their communication, writing and speaking clearly and effectively in standard formal American English with use of inclusive language.
- Students will understand, analyze, and assess nonverbal, cultural, and gender communication in small group and public communication settings.

B. Critical and Ethical Thinking and Problem Solving:

Students will use critical thinking and problem-solving skills in analyzing information in an ethical manner.



- Students will distinguish among opinions, facts, and inferences identifying and critiquing underlying and implicit assumptions.
- Students will thoughtfully evaluate diverse perspectives and alternate points of view by asking informed questions and making informed judgments.
- Students will solve problems by applying discipline-appropriate methods and standards.
- Students will integrate their knowledge, take an ethical position on issues or situations, and defend their stance with logical arguments.

C. Information and Computer Literacy:

Students will recognize when data and information is needed and have the skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for collegelevel work.

- Students will recognize the value of using the information to strengthen arguments and articulate research project questions.
- Students will identify resources and construct strategies for locating information and data to answer research project questions in their particular study fields, possibly using web search engines and data analysis tools.
- Students will understand factors that affect the quality of data and information and extract pertinent information needed for specific research questions and integrate it cohesively.
- Students will respect the privacy, security, and ownership of data and information they use, including ethical considerations focusing on avoiding plagiarism.
- Students will demonstrate media literacy by accessing, analyzing, and evaluating messages in various media modes, genres, and forms with an appreciation of the impacts of technologies on societies.

D. Collaboration, Cooperation, Intra-Cultural, and Inter-Cultural Responsibility:

Students will demonstrate interpersonal skills required for effective performance and understand the privileges and responsibilities of being a citizen in diverse and pluralistic societies, both locally and globally.

- Students will demonstrate communication skills that promote effective functioning and interpersonal relations with individuals and groups, including effective cross-cultural communication.
- Students will employ strategies, like brainstorming, role playing and consensus building, which promote productive and supportive interpersonal interaction in individual and group settings.
- Students will demonstrate understanding of the behaviors and beliefs of different social groups with pluralistic societies, including those based on culture, ethnicity, race, religion, creed, disability, marital status, national origin or ancestry, age, gender, socio-economic status, and sexual orientations.

General Education Goals

Goal 1. Written and Oral Communication in English:

Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

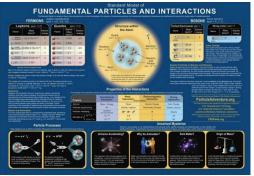
- 1.1 Students will read, write, and listen actively, critically, and reflectively.
- 1.2 Students will logically, informatively, persuasively, and creatively respond orally and/or in writing to what they read, hear, and see.
- 1.3 Students will evaluate and revise their written and/or oral communication.
- 1.4 Students will write and speak clearly and effectively in formal standard English.
- 1.5 Students will understand, analyze, and assess nonverbal, cultural, and gender communication in both small group and public communication settings.

Goal 2. Mathematics:

Students will use appropriate mathematical and statistical concepts and operations to interpret data and to solve problems.

- 2.1 Students will develop graphical, numerical, analytical and verbal models to describe quantitative relationships that exist in the world and communicate these concepts effectively.
- 2.2 Students will investigate and interpret these models using the mathematical skills, tools and reasoning appropriate to each type of model
- 2.3 Students will draw logical conclusions by applying a variety of mathematical problem-solving strategies.
- 2.4 Students will demonstrate an understanding that mathematics is a precise language that is used to solve complex problems in many disciplines.

This chart of the particles and interactions details how the particles of the Standard Model interact according to the three fundamental forces that Quantum Field Theory describes. When grawly is added into the mix, we obtain the observable Universe that we see, with the laws, parameters, and constants that we know of governing it. Mysteries, such as dark matter and dark energy, still remain.



(Credit: Contemporary Physics Education Project/DOE/SNF/LBNI

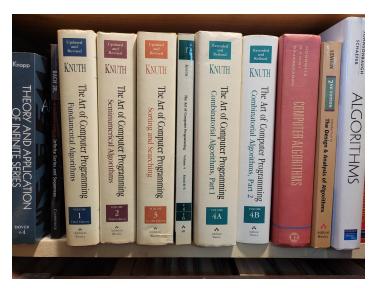
Goal 3. Science:

Students will use the scientific method of inquiry, through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.

- 3.1 Students will apply the scientific method of inquiry to solve problems utilizing critical thinking techniques to reason, listen, follow directions, make observation, and draw conclusions based on verifiable evidence by converting word problems to the appropriate mathematical language.
- 3.2 Students will use scientific theories and knowledge to understand the Natural Sciences and assess the impact of scientific theories, discoveries, and technological changes on society.
- 3.3 Students will integrate scientific principles and scientific discovery, and will critically investigate the impact of science and scientific discovery on our understanding of the natural universe.

Goal 4. Technology or Information Literacy:

Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.



- 4.1 Students will demonstrate proficiency with electronic communications as appropriate to academic and professional use.
- 4.2 Students will demonstrate the ability to use a particular technology or group of technologies to analyze or solve problems.
- 4.3 Students will demonstrate proficiency in the proper use of interfaces, files, essential productivity software, web browsers and search engines.
- 4.4 Students will describe accurately and analyze the impact computer technology has on modern society.
- 4.5 Students will explain the social and ethical issues surrounding a particular technology or group of technologies and articulate their opinions about such issues using written and oral communication.
- 4.6 Students will gather information from various resources, search tools, and strategies, evaluate and analyze that information, and then select information and use it correctly to answer a research question.
- 4.7 Students will respect the privacy, security and ownership of the information they locate and use, recognizing and honoring the ethical considerations relevant to data and information use with a particular focus on eliminating plagiarism.
- 4.8 Students will demonstrate competencies in utilizing computing devices and software skills to command programming languages to take advantage of education, information, and cultural opportunities in digital societies.

Goal 5. Social Science:

Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.

- 5.1 Students will critically evaluate behavioral or societal issues using theories and concepts from a social science perspective.
- 5.2 Students will analyze and appreciate how social and political institutions and organizations influence individual development and behavior.

5.3 Students will demonstrate an understanding of the ways social scientists gather, analyze data, integrate knowledge, and draw conclusions.

Goal 6. Humanities

Students will analyze scholarly works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.



- 6.1 Students will interact with texts, performance and visual media, demonstrating an awareness of significant themes and their contexts. They will analyze themes and contexts, while articulating their connections, meanings and values to self, society, and others.
- 6.2 Students will draw upon the visual, literary and performing arts and/or the study of philosophical and religious systems of thought and practice in order to expand their understanding of cultural, historical, and intellectual imagination.
- 6.3 Students will critically engage and use project-based learning to demonstrate an awareness of and critically engage with a range of historical and contemporary performances and visual and literary works and the approaches commonly used to analyze them.
- 6.4 Students will demonstrate communicative competence in a language other than English and their own and show appreciation of that added language's cultural and historical context.



Goal 7. History:

Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.

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- 7.1 Students will demonstrate an understanding of the causes of major historical events and analyze the impact of those events on a nation or civilization.
- 7.2 Students will critically interpret primary and secondary historical documents and critically evaluate the influence of perspective, time, and culture on the writer's point of view.
- 7.3 Students will explain major ideas, movements, and technological discoveries, and their impact on western, world, and American society.

Goal 8. Diversity and Global Perspective:

Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.



- 8.1 Students will link culture, its practices and perspectives, with its geographical and/or historical conditions.
- 8.2 Students will analyze how the differences in people's backgrounds are important to U.S. society and the global community.
- 8.3 Students will identify and evaluate the consequences of prejudicial attitudes and discriminatory actions.
- 8.4 Students will analyze the impact of globalization on the economic and political structures of various nations and cultures.
- 8.5 Students will demonstrate an understanding of the behaviors and beliefs of different social groups within a pluralistic society.

The Following Chart has been extracted from the New Jersey Council of County Colleges (NJCCC) April 3, 2023, Comprehensive List of General Education Courses at all New Jersey County Colleges. It displays all currently approved General Education Courses at Essex County College, where the seven Categories in the Chart refer to those specified by the NJCCC.

Gen Ed Courses at Essex County College List Updated April 3, 2023 L Written & Oral Communication: this category is "locked" and includes Comp I, Comp II, and Oral Communication		Gen Ed Courses at Essex County College List Updated April 3, 2023 Marks Statistics	
Comp II	ENG 102	Elem. Stats II	MTH 102
Technical Wrtg- AAS only	ENG 105	Mathmici Stats	MTH 141
nterper./Oral CM	ENG 109	3. Science: Any course in the biological or physical sciences that provides scientific principles; no professional courses	
. Mathematics: all courses that build on algebra		Biology	
ntro Coll Math	MTH 100	College Bio I	810 101
Concepts Math	MTH 103	College Bio II	840 102
Coll. Algebra	MTH 113	General Bio I	810 103
echnical Math-AAS Only	MTH 109	General Bio II	BIO 104
recalc	MTH 118	Fund, A&P	BIO 116
recalc I	MTH 119	A&PI	BIO 121
Precalc II	MTH 120	ARPH	BIO 122
Xscrete Math	MTH 136	Microbiology	810 211
Inified Calc	MTH 114	Genetics	BIO 237
late I	MTH 121	Earth Science, Ecology & Environment	
tale II	MTH 122	Environ Science	840 220
Inified Calc II	MTH 213	Meteorology	PHY 114
tale III	MTH 221	Astronomy	PHY 113
tifferential Equat	MTH 222	Geology I	GEO 101
lasic Calculus	MTH 127	Geology II	GEO 102
inear Alaskea	MTH 226		

Gen Ed Courses at Essex County College List Updated April 3, 2023		Gen Ed Courses at Essex County College List Updated April 3, 2023	
Chemistry		Political Science - American Government, International Relations, Comparative Government, Political Theory	
College Chem	CHM 101	Intro to Politics	POL 101
College Chem II	CHW 105	Amer Gov't	POL 104
General Chem I	CHM 103	Psychology as a form of scientific inquiry, the biology of behavior, states of consciousness, learning, memory, cognition, motivation/emotion, life span, personality, psychological disorders	
Gen Chem II	CHM 104	Gen. Psych	PSY 101
Physics		Intro to PSY II	PSY 102
Physics I	PHY 101	Child Psych	PSY 219
Physics II	PHY 102	Popls of Soc	50C 101
General Physics I	PHY 103	Soc of Family	50C 219
General Phys II	PHY 104	Social Problems	50C 108
 Tech/IL; common computer ski process, and present information application, language, or program 	not limited to one	Humanities: broad-based courses music, or theatre; literature; foreign philosophy and religious studies	
Fund1s of Comp Sci	CSC 100	Art: appreciation and art history	
Computer Literacy	CIS 107	Art Appreciation	ART 100
Understd Microcomps	CIS 131	Art History I	ART 101
Information Literacy Skills	ILS 101	Art History II	ART 102
 Social Science: introductory cor geography, political sci, psych, or for a program or major; history or category 	soc; course not designed	Music: appreciation and historical sa based courses not accepted for Gen	
Cultural Anthro	ANT 101	Music Apprec	MUS 100
Physical Anthro	ANT 105	Music His I	MUS 108
Macroecon	ECO 101	Jazz Apprec	MUS 109
Microecon	ECO 102	Black Contribs to Mus	MUS 117

Gen Ed Courses at Essex County College List Updated April 3, 2023 Theater/Cinema: appreciation and historical surveys; parformance-based courses not accepted for General Education		Gen Ed Courses at Essex County College List Updated April 3, 2023 Religious Studies	
History African-Amer Film	CIN 103	Foreign Language: all courses in target language accepted conversation at the intro level, language acquisition for specific professions, literature in translation and "topics" courses not accepted for Gen Ed.	
Literature: broad-based surveys of major genres, geographical areas, ethnic, social, and cultural groups		Arabic I	ARB 101
Amer Lit I	ENG 221	Arabic II	ARB 102
Amer Lit II	ENG 222	French I	FRN 101
West. Lit Trad	ENG 205	French II	FRN 102
Mod Lit Materpo	ENG 215	Intermed Fr I	FRN 201
Intro Poetry	ENG 254	Italian I	ITL 101
Intro Drama	ENG 250	Italian II	ITL 102
Intro Novel	ENG 256	Spanish I	SPA 101
Afr & Carib Lit	ENG 232	Spanish II	SPA 102
Intro Theater	ENG 250	Intermed Span I	SPA 201
Shakespeare	ENG 208	Intermed Span II	SPA 202
Afric Amer Lit	ENG 237	7. History: broad-based course in World, Western, non-Western or American History	
Black Lit in Amer	ENG 238	Western Civ I	HST 101
Women's Lit	ENG 263	Western Civ II	HST 102
Contemp Wom's Lit	ENG 264	U.S. HIST	HST 111
Survey of Modern Biography	ENG 290	U.S. HIS II	HST 112
Latin Amer Lit	ENG 242	World Civ I	HST 101
Children's Lit	ENG 270	World Civ II	HST 102
Science Fiction	ENG 275	U.S. HIST	HST 111
Philosophy		U.S. HIS II	HST 112
Intro Probs in Phi	PHI 101	World Civ I	HST 101
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Gen Ed Courses at Essex County College List Updated April 3, 2023		Gen Ed Courses at Essex County College List Updated April 3, 2023	
World Civ II	HST 102	Latin Amer His I	HST 131
Mod Eur to FrRey	HST 161	Latin Amer His II	HST 132
Mod Eur Sin FR	HST 162	Afric Amer His I	HST 121
African Hist I	HST 134	Afric Amer His II	H5T 122
African Hist II	HST 135	African History 1	HST 134
Asian Civ I	HST 136	African History 2	HST 135
Asian Civ II	HST 137	Genocide & Holocaust	HST 208
Latin Amer I	HST 131	Asian History 1	HST 136
Latin Amer II	HST 132	Asian History 2	HST 137
Mric Amer His I	HST 121	HIS Amer Immig	HST 206
Afric Amer His II	HST 122	Women in Amer. H	HST 204
is of Amer Immigration	HST 206	Western Lit Survey	ENG 205
Worn in US HIS	HST 204	Afric-Amer Lit	ENG 237
Senocide & Holo	HST 208	Black Amer Writers	ENG 238
Diversity: primary purpose is to expose students to a multicultural society or people; non-introductory languages allowed		African & Carib Lit	ENG 232
Cultural Anthro	ANT 101	Women in Lit	ENG 263
frysical Anthro	ANT 105	Women as Author/Lit by Women	ENG 264
Appreciation of Art	ART 100	Contemporary Lit	ENG 215
Art History I	ART 101	Latin Amer Lit	ENG 242
Art History II	ART 102	Black Contribs to Music	MUS 117
dric-Amer Art	ART 200	Compar Relig	REL 105
drican-Amer Film	CIN 203	Death & Dying	SOC 207
World Giv I	HST 101	Psych of Sexuality/Human Sex.	P5Y 232
Norld Civ II	HST 102	Social Problems	SOC 108
		Soc Black Crety in Amer	SOC 205