Shasta College
Institutional Student Learning Outcomes

1. Critical Thinking
2. Information Competency
3. Effective Communication
4. Quantitative Reasoning
5. Self-Efficacy
6. Workplace Skills
7. Community and Global Awareness

The following brief guidelines outline the meaning and the intent of the seven different ISLO categories. These guidelines are not meant to be comprehensive, so that they may be changed and/or enhanced by faculty as the need arises. The Academic Senate will continue to oversee the development and evolution of these guidelines.

1. Critical Thinking

Critical thinking is the ability to comprehend, communicate, or engage in problem-solving or strategy-building techniques. This includes but is not limited to the ability to:

Think Creatively:
- Apply principles to new situations
- See relationships between different situations
- Brainstorm effectively

Analyze:
- Contrast and compare ideas, concepts, principles or theories
- Apply logical reasoning to draw conclusions
- Analyze arguments, assumptions and methods

Solve Problems:
- Understand and analyze the problem
- Analyze the issues surrounding the problem
- Clarify goals
- Make decisions and evaluate results

2. Information Competency

Information competency is the ability to find, evaluate, use and communicate information in all its various formats. This includes but is not limited to the ability to:

Research
- Recognize and articulate the need for information
- Determine information requirements in various disciplines for research questions, problems, or issues
- Identify potential sources of appropriate and credible information
- Locate and retrieve information using available information tools and technology

Evaluate Information
- Organize information
- Evaluate retrieved information on the basis of reliability, accuracy, authority, appropriateness, timeliness, and point of view or bias
- Recognize statistically sound information
- Interpret and synthesize information
- Make inferences from valid data

Disseminate Information
- Communicate using a variety of information technologies
- Understand the ethical and legal issues surrounding information and information technology
- Apply the skills gained to future information needs

3. Effective Communication

Effective communication is the ability to effectively use written, oral and nonverbal communication. This includes but is not limited to the ability to:

Read:
- Comprehend written information
- Compare and contrast

Write:
- Convey accurate information in writing
- Express thoughts, ideas and feelings using civil discourse
- Edit and revise written work

Listen Actively:
- Ask meaningful questions
- Respond appropriately

Present/Converse:
- Construct oral messages appropriate to particular communication situations
- Participate effectively in discussions
- Express thoughts, ideas and feelings using civil discourse

Advocate

- Identify key points in a dispute
- Identify and rank relevant values
- Conduct effective cross-examinations, both as questioner and respondent
- Construct valid arguments using the appropriate stock issues
- Identify weaknesses in an opponent's position and refute them
- Respond and rebut attacks or criticism of one's position

4. Quantitative Reasoning

Quantitative reasoning is the ability to use appropriate mathematical methods. This includes but is not limited to the ability to:

Measure:
- Identify the accuracy of the measuring device
- Estimate the uncertainty associated with measured quantities
- Use standard statistical conventions for assigning a value to a measurement

Compute:
- Use basic mathematics to perform mathematical operations
- Estimate answers using reasonable strategies
- Use significant figures appropriately when operating with measured quantities
- Estimate uncertainty of a dependent quantity by error propagation of its variables
- Use a calculator to evaluate expressions

Solve Problems:
- Interpret the problem
- Make a plan and decide which mathematical model to use
- Use appropriate mathematical methods to arrive at the correct answer

- Recognize the limits of different mathematical methods
- Check solutions for reasonableness

Read and Interpret Data:
- Interpret graphs, tables, charts and text to extract data
- Make inferences from valid data
- Use graphing technology to analyze and predict behaviors

5. Self-Efficacy

Self efficacy is the confidence and ability to perform the courses of action required to effectively meet personal, social, academic and professional goals. This includes but is not limited to:

Self Awareness and Accountability:
- Recognize and accept consequences of decisions
- Be aware of and take control of one's own learning
- Meet deadlines and complete tasks
- Commit to lifelong learning
- Recognize strengths and weaknesses

Physical Health:
- Manage personal health and wellbeing

6. Workplace Skills

Workplace skills provide the ability to perform effectively at work. They include but are not limited to:

Technological Skills:
- Selects appropriate technology
- Applies technology to task
- Maintains and troubleshoots equipment

Teamwork:
- Negotiates
- Participates as a member of a team
- Conflict Resolution

Workplace Effectiveness:
- Time Management
- Knowledge of industry standards

7. Community and Global Awareness

Community and global awareness includes an understanding of community and global issues and cross-cultural awareness. This includes but is not limited to:

Cultural Awareness:
- Understand the perspectives of diverse groups
- Appreciate the contributions of diverse groups
- Respect the needs, difficulties and rights of diverse groups

Civic Awareness:
- Appreciate the importance of public service
- Understand the grounds of civic duty

Environmental Awareness:
- Understand current environmental issues