General Education And College One

> EDUCATION IS WHAT REMAINS AFTER ONE HAS FORGOTTEN EVERYTHING...LEARNED IN SCHOOL.
>
> —Albert Einstein, Recipient of Nobel Prize In Physics and Professor of Theoretical Physics, Princeton University

General Education

What is general education? All universities aspire to educate the whole student. General education provides you with the practical skills and diverse knowledge base that you will need to become a good problem-solver after graduation. You will be entering the workplace in an era of rapid change; your future career may ultimately be in a field that doesn't exist today. Through general education, you will craft for yourself the tools that will let you continue to grow in a world that demands lifelong learning for success.

General education at UC Merced will help you grow intellectually by:

- Strengthening your abilities in quantitative reasoning and written, oral and other communication skills; and
- Introducing and teaching you to integrate broad domains of knowledge: arts and humanities; social and cognitive sciences; natural sciences; and technologies and engineering methods.

Throughout your undergraduate years, UC Merced's general education program will help you fine-tune your ability to communicate through words, numbers, images, and actions; and enable you to discover the many ways in which knowledge is created and put to good use.

General education at UC Merced places a high premium on demonstrating the ways in which different disciplines can make links with each other. There will also be an emphasis on practicing and applying what you are learning in the classroom—an educational value also reflected in the undergraduate majors at UC Merced.

The faculty has created a set of principles that embody the kinds of learning to be achieved through general education at UC Merced. You will encounter these principles in action through the Core Course sequence, a unique opportunity for all UC Merced undergraduates to share a common exploration of the issues that will affect your future. All freshmen and juniors will take a Core Course.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR GENERAL EDUCATION AT UC MERCED

UC Merced's educational experiences are designed to prepare well-educated people of the 21st century for the workplace, for advanced education and for a leadership role within their communities. UC Merced graduates will be exceptionally well prepared to navigate and succeed in a complex world. The principles guiding the design and implementation of our academic program are envisioned within a continuum that ranges from preparatory and advanced curricula in general education and in the majors, through a variety of educational activities inside and outside the classroom.

All UC Merced graduates will reflect these principles, which provide the foundation for their education:

- **Scientific Literacy:** To have a functional understanding of scientific, technological and quantitative information, and to know both how to interpret scientific information and effectively apply quantitative tools;
- **Decision Making:** To appreciate the various and diverse factors bearing on decisions and the know-how to assemble, evaluate, interpret and use information effectively for critical analysis and problem solving;
- **Communication:** To convey information to and communicate and interact effectively with multiple audiences, using advanced skills in written and other modes of communication;
- **Self and Society:** To understand and value diverse perspectives in both the global and community contexts of modern society in order to work knowledgeably and effectively in an ethnically and culturally rich setting;
- **Ethics and Responsibility:** To follow ethical practices in their professions and communities, and care for future generations through sustainable living and environmental and societal responsibility;
- **Leadership and Teamwork:** To work effectively in both leadership and team roles, capably making connections and integrating their expertise with the expertise of others;
- **Aesthetic Understanding and Creativity:** To appreciate and be knowledgeable about human creative expression, including literature and the arts; and
- **Development of Personal Potential:** To be responsible for achieving the full promise of their abilities, including psychological and physical well-being.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

The UC Merced general education program consists of courses that are informed by the Guiding Principles and that meet the following graduation requirements:

- University requirements,
- Campus requirements, and
- School requirements.

In consultation with faculty, with advisors in the Student Advising and Learning Center and with advisors in your major program, you should keep track of your progress in fulfilling university, campus and school requirements for general education.