

SPRING 2008 LEARNING OUTCOMES REPORT

GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR CALHOUN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- **Critical Thinking Skills** – students will be able to interpret information, respond and adapt to changing situations, make complex decisions, solve problems, and evaluate actions.
- **Quantitative Reasoning** – Students will be able to identify, analyze, generalize and communicate quantitative relationships. Students will be able to perform tasks that require mathematical skills and solve problems using algebra(ic) concepts.
- **Scientific Reasoning** – Students will be able to reason inductively and deductively and be able to hypothesize and evaluate hypotheses empirically.
- **Information and Computer Literacy** –Students will demonstrate basic computer skills and the ability to access, select, evaluate and use information resources.
- **Communication Skills** – Students will be able to speak and write clearly.
- **Cultural Diversity Skills** – Students will demonstrate knowledge of the impact of cultural literacy in the arts and humanities and the chronological history of our society. Students will demonstrate an understanding of skills needed to live and work in a culturally diverse world.

SPRING 2008 ASSESSMENT

Departments and Divisions are responsible for coordinating the collection of their general education learning outcomes data according schedules that best meet their needs. The goal is for each section of a designated course to submit data, but that is not always possible. The following sections report a comparison of Fall 2007 and Spring 2008 data where possible.

Information and Computer Literacy – Measured in CIS 146 Courses

Information and computer literacy outcomes were assessed in the CIS 146 classes for the first time in the Spring 2008 semester. Although the department had adopted an assessment method and instrument for Fall 2007, the assessment was not administered due to the determination that a word-based application assessment would better address the information literacy outcome.

The CIS department adopted a 25-question objective test covering various topics in Microsoft Word. A total of 214 test scores were collected from 14 sections of CIS 146 (attachment A). The general education outcomes grading rubric was used to score the assessment according to the following scale:

Test Score	Rubric Score
Less than 59	1
60 – 69	2
70 – 79	3
80-100	4

The first administration of the instrument produced the following results:

Statistic	Value
Average Test Score	72.3
Median Test Score	72.5
Mean Rubric Score	2.8

The CIS faculty discussed the data resulting from the assessment and determined that an objective test was not a good measure of information and computer literacy. They determined that a new assessment method should be adopted in Fall 2008.

Critical Thinking – Measured in SOC 200 Courses

No data is available for this course

Scientific Reasoning – Measured in BIO 103 Courses

No data is available for this course

Communication Skills – Measured in ENG 102 Courses

The English department used the same assessment instrument they adopted in Fall 2007 to assess communication skills. A total of 649 student assessments were collected. All courses were reported together and revealed that an average of 18.53 items out of 24 was answered correctly. This results in an average rubric score of 3.52.

Quantitative Analysis Skills – Measured in MTH 112 Courses

The math department used the same assessment instrument they adopted in Fall 2007 to assess quantitative analysis skills. A total of 241 students in 12 sections of MTH 112 were assessed. The overall average rubric score was ????

Cultural Diversity Skills – Measured in HIS 201 Courses

No data is available for this course

All General Education Skills – Measured in ECO 231 Courses

The assessment tool used for evaluating all general education learning outcomes in ECO 231 was the same instrument used in Fall 2007. The Economics faculty has set a goal of 70% of students scoring a 3 or higher on the rubric score. That goal was met on items 1, 2, 4, and 6. That goal was not met on items 3, 5, and 7. The following table illustrates the results:

Spring 2008 ECO231 General Education Posttest Matrix

	Outcome	1		2		3		4		5		6		7	
		Communication Skills	Critical Thinking	Cultural Literacy	Information and Computer Literacy	Quantitative Analysis	Scientific Reasoning	Diversity							
Rating		f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
4	Excellent	50	38.5	67	43.5	37	24.0	91	70.05	32	20.8	33	21.	24	15.6
3	Good	45	34.6	59	38.3	60	39.0	14	10.8	53	34.4	78	50.6	61	39.6
2	Fair	22	16.9	21	13.6	44	28.6	2	1.5	48	31.2	26	16.9	41	26.6
1	Poor	13	10.0	7	4.5	13	8.4	23	17.7	21	13.6	17	11.0	28	18.2
	TOTAL	130	100	154	100	154	100	130	100	154	100	154	100	154	100
	Scoring 3 or higher	95	73.1	126	81.8	97	63	105	80.8	85	55.2	111	72.1	85	55.2

- **Note: Outcomes 1 and 4 were rated by direct observation by instructors. The other outcomes were evaluated by an online quiz. Also, results were not reported for some sections. Thus, the number of students evaluated on these outcomes varies.**