

Significance of Outcomes

After the proposed general education category descriptions with outcomes are approved by the Faculty Senate, then those outcomes for that general education category become outcomes for each course approved for that category. These general education outcomes will become part of the course syllabus, e.g., each course designated as Capstone, will have the general education outcomes for the Capstone category as part of the syllabus. For each course it is anticipated that the expected student outcomes for general education will be a subset of the expected student outcomes for the course. It will be the responsibility of the faculty member teaching the course to assess how well the students are meeting the general education outcomes for that course. This assessment might be by exam, paper, performance evaluation or another method that you might use.

The Center for Excellence in Teaching will be responsible for providing guidance on assessment methods and for collecting the results of outcome assessments for all courses having general education designations. These results will be publicly available and will be the basis for possible modifications or improvements of general education at the University of Maine. The assessments will address the concerns of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) concerning the effectiveness of the general education program at the University of Maine.