

UNIVERSITY LIBERAL LEARNING CURRICULUM

Principles of Liberal Learning: Christopher Newport University involves students in a rich, multifaceted tradition of intellectual exploration grounded in the common principles of liberal learning. The program of study develops students' capacities of empowerment, knowledge and responsibility, whose key intellectual and personal attributes are enumerated below. All coursework at CNU—whether in the liberal learning core, in the major, or in elective courses or courses in a minor—seeks to introduce, reinforce, and advance student aptitude in these primary capacities.

The Essential Learning Outcomes

Beginning in school and continuing at successively higher levels across their college studies, students prepare for twenty-first century challenges by gaining:

- Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World through study in the sciences and mathematics, social sciences, humanities, histories, languages, and the arts. **Focused** by engagement with big questions, both contemporary and enduring.
- Intellectual and Practical Skills, including: inquiry and analysis; critical and creative thinking; written and oral communication; quantitative literacy; information literacy; teamwork and problem solving. **Practiced extensively**, across the curriculum, in the context of progressively more challenging problems, projects, and standards for performance.
- Personal and Social Responsibility, including: civic knowledge and engagement – local and global; intercultural knowledge and competence; ethical reasoning and action; foundations and skills for lifelong learning. **Anchored** through active involvement with diverse communities and real-world challenges.
- Integrative Learning, including synthesis and advanced accomplishment across general and specialized studies. **Demonstrated** through the application of knowledge, skills, and responsibilities to new setting and complex problems.

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COLL 140. The Transitional Learner (2-2-0)

Prerequisite: First year freshman or first term transfer student.

This course serves as an introduction to higher education and an ongoing orientation to CNU campus resources and services. Designed to help new students transition to college life, students will learn academic and psycho-social skills that will assist them in their adjustment to CNU. Students will achieve greater understanding of learning theories, problem-solving approaches and academic skills and study strategies that can be applied within the college environment. In addition, students will investigate potential academic pathways, career goals and pre-professional experience prior to graduation.

COLL 150. The Intentional Learner (2-2-0)

Prerequisite: academic probation status.

Spring.

The student will understand the significance of a liberal arts education, examine his/her role in and responsibility for learning, understand and apply college study skills, comprehend university policies and procedures, develop long- and short-term goals for college success, and explore career goals through preparation for academic advising, major exploration and clarification of the decision-making process. The course will also give attention to college reading and its centrality to academic achievement.