

San Diego State University Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

Background: During the March 2020 University Senate meeting, a set of draft ILOs were presented in a Committee of the Whole format by AVP Shultz on behalf of the GE Reform Task Force¹. These ILOs has been revised based on consideration of feedback from that meeting and from subsequent communications from campus constituents. Note that the proposed ILOs subsume/replace/elevate the current Essential Capacities, address the five WASC core competencies, and include a focus on specific disciplinary knowledge. As promised in the March 2020 senate item, these revised ILOs are presented below for senate discussion and formal endorsement. With senate endorsement, these ILOs would be incorporated into the forthcoming AY21/22 catalog, the new curriculum proposal forms, and the developing campus-wide assessment efforts in service to regional accreditation through WASC.

Some general definitions of ILOs:

- CSU Chancellor's Office: Institutional learning outcomes (ILOs) typically highlight the general knowledge, skills, and dispositions all students are expected to have upon graduating from an institution of higher learning
- WASC Handbook of Accreditation 2013: As appropriate, institution-level learning outcomes (ILOs) may play a useful role in defining the meaning of undergraduate and graduate degrees

Some arguably overlapping purposes for ILOs:

- Promote the meaning, quality, and integrity of degrees through a holistic, integrated, and student-centered approach
- Provide a prioritized set of "North Stars" for curricular and co-curricular development, assessment, revision, and integration as well as evidence-based allocation of human resources and financial resources in service to our shared educational mission
- Represent a shared vision for faculty, staff, administration, and students
- Reinforce and exemplify the mission and vision of an institution

*Proposed Institutional Learning Outcomes for San Diego State University
(revised and endorsed by GE Task Force on 22 May 2020)*

1. Demonstrate expertise in integrating ideas, methods, theories, and practices within and across academic/disciplinary areas of study. (Disciplinary/Interdisciplinary Knowledge)
2. Seek, analyze, contextualize, and incorporate information to expressly enrich understanding of the world. (WASC Information Literacy)
3. Develop the ability to sustain curiosity and to think critically, creatively, and independently. (WASC Critical Thinking)
4. Develop skills to collaborate effectively and ethically as leaders and team members. (WASC Oral and Written Communication)
5. Communicate effectively within and across academic, professional, and social contexts. (WASC Oral and Written Communication)
6. Use deductive reasoning and statistical methods to gather, interpret, and evaluate data critically, in order to assess the reasonableness of solutions to scientific, civic, and personal challenges. (WASC Quantitative Reasoning)
7. Demonstrate an understanding of diversity, equity, inclusion, and sustainability through local, global, and ethical perspectives.

¹ See page 46-47 of the March 2020 University Senate Agenda: https://senate.sdsu.edu/agendas/minutes/documents/2020_senate_agenda_april_final.pdf

Adopted by the University Senate October 6, 2020