Learning Outcomes, Objectives, and Assessment

The curriculum for this course was developed not only on nationally recognized best practices and through ongoing communication with the Washburn FYE Committee, but also with the Washburn University General Education Learning Outcomes in mind.

- 1. Communication (COM)
- 2. Quantitative and Scientific Reasoning and Literacy (QSRL)
- 3. Information Literacy and Technology (ILT)
- 4. Critical and Creative Thinking (CCT)
- 5. Global Citizenship, Ethics and Diversity (GCED)

Primary Student Learning Outcome

The primary student outcome that WU 101 is designed to address is <u>Information Literacy</u> and <u>Technology</u>. Using a both pre and post-test, the goal is to see a minimum of 70% of the enrolled students improve their Information Literacy skills in the digital age. The pre and post-test are designed to evaluate student learning in Information Literacy as outlined in the Information Literacy VALUE Rubric of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, one endorsed by the Association of College and Research Libraries [see Appendix C].

The course activities are all designed to promote active learning. Becoming proficient in Information Literacy and Technology skills is dependent upon students actively engaging in and with the course material. Students in WU101 are required to use the weekly course topics as their launching point into the use of appropriate information resources in the digital age. They will actively engage course modules in the Angel Learning Systems to develop their proficiency in Information Literacy and Technology and be tested on the use of these skills each week. Importantly, students must demonstrate proficiency each week before the next course module becomes available to them.

Secondary Student Learning Outcomes

The additional course objectives also tie directly to the Washburn University Learning Outcomes. So, upon conclusion of WU101 the student will be able to:

1. Practice academic honesty and exhibit ethical conduct.

The student will learn about academic honesty as it relates to the various academic disciplines in the university and in regard to electronic publication. Assessment of this objective will be measured by giving students activities and scenarios requiring them to respond in an honest and ethical manner. (ILT, COM, CCT, GCED)

The student will learn about college life and, in particular, what it means to be an Ichabod at Washburn University. In conjunction with Objective 4, this course aims to create a sense of belonging to the institution. Students will be assessed on their engagement with the campus based on completion of the Cultural Passport activities. (ILT, COM, GCED)

3. Develop an academic success plan and demonstrate an understanding of the purpose of a university education.

The student will learn what the university setting consists of regarding organization, language, the components of a degree, and the ways university work is different from their prior schooling. Assessment of this objective will be measured by quizzing students about the structure of the university and general degree requirements. (ILT, COM, CCT)

4. Establish connections to faculty, staff and students in the WU community.

Research shows that a key element in student success and retention is when the student makes a connection to someone or something at the university. The team approach to this course is designed to develop connections between students as well as with university personnel, and to foster commitment to the student's studies and the university. Assessment of this objective will be based on the student's participation and attendance in the course. (ILT, COM)

5. Demonstrate effective collegiate learning and study skills.

The student will learn and reinforce success skills related to personal and scholastic organization and management. Topics covered are in the course syllabus included in Appendix A. Students will be assessed on this objective by quizzing them about the various skill approaches and methods they can use in academic settings to promote success. (ILT, COM, QSRL, CCT, GCED)

To establish a baseline of student understanding in each of the required outcomes an online pre-test will be administered before Class #1. After Class #38, each student is required to take an online post-test to measure their individual improvement in outcome competencies.