

LEARNING OUTCOMES AT URI BEYOND THE MAJOR

University of Rhode Island Learning Outcomes

As a consequence of the interaction between General Education and major programs, the University of Rhode Island expects that all programs will lead students toward:

- the ability to think critically in order to solve problems and question the nature and sources of authority
- the ability to use the methods and materials characteristic of each knowledge area with an understanding of the interrelationship among and the interconnectedness of the core areas
- a commitment to intellectual curiosity and lifelong learning
- an openness to new ideas with the social skills necessary for both teamwork and leadership
- the ability to think independently and be self-directed; to make informed choices and take initiative

General Education Cognitive Student Learning Outcomes

In academic and non-academic settings, with respect to fine arts and literature, humanities and letters, the natural sciences, and the social sciences, as a result of participating in the General Education program, students will be able to:

- **identify** basic concepts, theories, and developments;
- **recognize** issues, as well as aesthetic and literary elements and forms;
- **ask** questions appropriate to the modes of inquiry;
- **collect** information relevant to the questions raised; and
- **analyze** the information in order to address the questions or solve problems

General Education Integrated Skills

Each course in General Education must also incorporate opportunities for students to practice three (3) or more of the following skills:

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| - reading complex texts | - using quantitative data |
| - writing effectively | - using qualitative data |
| - speaking effectively | - demonstrating information literacy |
| - examining human differences | - engaging in artistic activity |

Grand Challenge Student Learning Outcomes *

In addition to the General Education Student Learning Outcomes emphasized (noted above), and required integrated skills (noted above), students who participate in a Grand Challenge collaborative course experience should know and be able to:

- **comprehend interdisciplinarity:** integrate, synthesize and apply connections beyond a single discipline, and
- **demonstrate intercultural/global knowledge and competence:**
 - build global/intercultural awareness ("where I am in the world") by examining one's place as an American in a global society through exposure to texts/ideas of other nations/cultures
 - examine one's pre-conceived notions of global/intercultural issues.

*Grand Challenge collaborative course student learning outcomes originate from the shared experiences of Grand Challenge Fellows serving as Mentors in 2011, (Alton Jones Mentors Retreat , 12/2010; summarized by SLOAA).