

YORK COLLEGE SENATE  
DECEMBER 12, 2006

**General Education Program Review Committee**

Mission Statement  
General Education Requirements

An individual who has received a sound general education is characterized by intellectual curiosity and an awareness of the social significance of education in a diverse world. General education thus fosters personal growth, as well as providing a strong academic base which will lead to the successful completion of a baccalaureate degree. General Education Requirements at York College have been designed to introduce students to the content and methodology of diverse academic disciplines and to appreciate their inter-relationship. This serves not only to expand students' knowledge but to help them formulate goals regarding future careers and graduate study, and provide a foundation for a well-lived life. General Education Requirements provide a foundation for a life of learning and professional success by enabling students to:

- Develop skills of critical analysis and problem-solving.
- Construct an effective argument based on evidence and reasoning.
- Generate, synthesize and clearly express ideas through writing and speaking.
- Develop research skills, using both traditional and electronic media.
- Acquire quantitative literacy and essential mathematical skills.
- Develop skills of visual literacy in order to analyze and interpret information presented in diverse forms.
- Gain knowledge of diverse world societies, cultures and languages.
- Understand the economic, political and social structure of contemporary society and the background of ideas and events that contributed to its formation.
- Appreciate diverse forms of creative expression in literature and the fine and performing arts.
- Develop opportunities for self-expression through writing, speaking and artistic activity.
- Understand the workings of the human mind and body and learn activities that promote health and well-being.
- Gain scientific knowledge of the physical environment and the ecological impact of human behavior.