

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
University Senate

Resolution on Initial Implementation of Humboldt State University Institutional Learning Outcomes

11-18/19-ICC – February 26, 2019 – First Reading

RESOLVED: That the University Senate of Humboldt State University recommends to the President that Major Programs be required to feature Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) that align with at least four (4) Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs) from ILOs 3-7 (the Core Competency ILOs); and be it further

RESOLVED: that Major Programs also be required to feature a PLO that aligns with either ILO 1 or ILO 2; and be it further

RESOLVED: that Programs will have developed curriculum matrices and assessment plans demonstrating where the appropriate skills will be taught and how and where assessment of the learning outcomes will be assessed by the end of Fall 2019; and be it further

RESOLVED: that the University provide support and resources to implement the alignment of the ILOs across the curriculum; and be it further

RESOLVED: that this implementation plan be revisited and reevaluated by the Integrated Curriculum Committee in AY 2021-22; and be it further

RESOLVED: that a report of the ICC's analysis be brought forward to the University Senate in AY 2021-22.

RATIONALE: The University has recently adopted the following Institutional Learning Outcomes:

1. **Equity and Social Justice** – HSU graduates will be able to identify and evaluate systems of power and privilege and identify methods for creating diverse, inclusive, and racially just and equitable communities.
2. **Sustainability and Environmental Awareness** – HSU graduates will be able to explain how the functions of the natural world, society, and the economy depend on the resilience, sustainability, and conservation of ecological systems.
3. **Information Literacy** – HSU graduates will be able to locate, evaluate, and employ information effectively and ethically for a wide range of purposes.
4. **Critical Thinking** – HSU graduates will be able to critically evaluate issues, ideas, artifacts, and evidence to guide one's thinking.

5. **Written Communication** – HSU graduates will be able to develop and express ideas effectively in writing.
6. **Oral Communication** – HSU graduates will be able to effectively communicate orally for informational, persuasive, and expressive purposes.
7. **Quantitative Reasoning** – HSU graduates will be able to apply math concepts and skills to the interpretation and analysis of quantitative information in context.

In light of this adoption, and as per the WSCUC team’s concern (in the report for reaffirmation of HSU’s accreditation, March 2018) that “there is a lack of integration and alignment of program-level outcomes to university-level outcomes,” the University must now move to support the further development of a formal and transparent institutional assessment plan.

We begin with an emphasis on the core competencies identified by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) *2013 Handbook of Accreditation*, which are outlined in revised ILOs 3-7 (Information Literacy, Critical Thinking, Written Communication, Oral Communication, and Quantitative Reasoning).

We also require each program to align with either ILO 1 (Equity and Social Justice) or ILO 2 (Sustainability and Environmental Awareness). The ultimate goal will be to move toward a curriculum where each major Program on campus connects to both ILOs 1 and 2, with a recognition that inevitable variation will occur as to the degree to which they Introduce, Develop, and/or Master these outcomes.

All ILOs will be supplemented by curriculum connected to the General Education program. Therefore, and concurrently with the work undertaken by Programs in support of these efforts, the GEAR committee will continue to consider how current and future GE structures support the delivery and assessment of the ILO competencies.

Major programs will receive significant support from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and the Center for Teaching and Learning in the initial phase of mapping to the ILOs and developing robust assessment programs in order to achieve the ambitious deadline set forward here.