

# Quinnipiac University's Essential Learning Outcomes

Approved by the Faculty Senate on February 12, 2016

A Quinnipiac University education provides students with both specialized knowledge of a discipline, and a broad understanding of human cultures and the physical and natural world. Quinnipiac graduates can integrate and apply knowledge from multiple perspectives found inside and outside of the classroom. They have a sufficient command of key forms of literacy, as well as the requisite intellectual, social, and personal skills and understanding, to identify and respond effectively to contemporary problems. Quinnipiac graduates demonstrate a number of key outcomes essential to the life and practice of a responsible, educated citizen, consciously and decisively. Graduates acquire these Essential Learning Outcomes (ELOs) through a purposeful integration of the University Curriculum, requirements within one's major, and co-curricular experiences.

## Knowledge and Literacies

Quinnipiac University graduates can...  
Demonstrate, integrate and apply knowledge.

This requires:

- Information Fluency
- Visual Literacy
- Scientific Literacy
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Diversity Awareness and Sensitivity

Examples:

- Demonstrate effective quantitative reasoning, for instance by representing and interpreting mathematical information effectively, and using mathematical methods to solve problems.
- Demonstrate scientific literacy, for instance by evaluating pieces of scientific information effectively based on their source and on the methods used to generate them.
- Demonstrate visual literacy, for instance by effectively interpreting and creating visual artifacts such as charts and graphs, diagrams, artworks, and electronic media.
- Demonstrate fluency in finding and evaluating information from a range of media, such as different types of text, music, performance, and presentation.
- Recognize and engage critically with specialized knowledge of a discipline, and a broad understanding of historical and contemporary human cultures and the physical and natural world.
- Integrate and apply knowledge and principles drawn from multiple perspectives and fields of inquiry, potentially including from within the humanities, arts,

mathematics, social sciences, sciences, engineering, business, communications, and/or the health professions.

## Critical and Creative Thinking

Quinnipiac University graduates can...  
Think critically and creatively.

This requires:

- Critical Thinking and Reasoning
- Creative Thinking

Examples:

- Use logical and critical reasoning approaches effectively.
- Identify problems in a range of contexts and develop effective and innovative solutions.
- Examine complex issues from a range of perspectives with an open mind.
- Critically assess their own reasoning processes, identify and engage honestly with biases and prejudices, and revise judgments and reasoning processes following individual reflection and/or through reasoned discussion with others.
- Innovate, take risks, and think creatively, constructively, analytically, and with confidence, including complex situations where clear and unambiguous solutions may not be available.

## Effective Communication

Quinnipiac University graduates can...  
Communicate Effectively.

This requires:

- Written communication
- Oral communication
- Visual literacy

Examples:

- Write, speak, read, listen, make, create, compose, present, and otherwise express themselves and comprehend others effectively.
- Apply general methods of communication, as well as those specific to their chosen intellectual and/or professional fields, consistently and precisely.

- Identify their audience(s) and adapt to audience needs effectively.
- Use diverse communication methods and technologies appropriately and efficiently.
- Create and interpret visual messages (ex. art, electronic media, charts, graphs, diagrams, etc.) that advance thinking, decision-making, and communication.

## Inquiry and Analysis

Quinnipiac University graduates can...  
Conduct inquiry and analysis effectively.

This requires:

- Information Fluency
- Visual Literacy
- Scientific Literacy
- Quantitative Reasoning

Examples:

- Find, critically evaluate, and analyze information from diverse sources efficiently.
- Recognize, use, and demonstrate appreciation for the multiplicity of methods of inquiry and practice, including the humanities, arts, mathematics, social sciences, sciences, engineering, technology, business, communications, nursing, and/or health professions.
- Evaluate and construct arguments based on logic and evidence.
- Apply acquired knowledge and skills to new contexts and problems independently.
- Select relevant and appropriate techniques to manage projects efficiently and to conduct rigorous inquiry.
- Evaluate diverse and relevant methods of inquiry and practice continuously, as part of lifelong learning.

## Social and Emotional Intelligence

Quinnipiac University graduates can...  
Engage collaboratively and responsibly.

This requires:

- Social Intelligence
- Diversity Awareness and Sensitivity

## Examples:

- Reflect on one's individual and group behaviors and choices, and revise them as needed, in order to manage emotions and interactions with others effectively.
- Use ethical and constructive approaches to pursue and achieve goals, whether working alone or in a team.
- Be fully present in interactions with others, take time to understand the points being made, and ask questions as appropriate.

## Intercultural Citizenship and Responsibility

Quinnipiac University graduates can...

Act as responsible intercultural citizens of a diverse world.

### This requires:

- Responsible Citizenship
- Diversity Awareness and Sensitivity

### Examples:

- Recognize and apply knowledge of diversities, inequalities, and power relationships amongst individuals, communities, cultures, philosophies, and nations.
- Recognize and apply knowledge about the diverse experiences of different groups of people, including those who have historically been marginalized.
- Engage reflectively and critically with issues of identity, intercultural complexity and diversity in personal, social, and intellectual contexts.
- Engage critically, collaboratively, and responsibly with decisions and actions at local, national, and global community levels.
- Demonstrate awareness of the contributions of diverse individuals and groups at local, national, and global community levels.