

A&S Mission Statement

Valdosta State University College of Arts & Sciences is committed to excellence in teaching, research and creative work, and community involvement. Arts and Sciences provides the vast majority of core courses that equip students to be informed, empowered and engaged global citizens of the 21st century. In all of our courses, from core to undergraduate majors and minors to graduate classes, we embrace and promote through our teaching, research and service the national Essential Learning Outcomes for higher education in this century:

Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World, including engaging students in big questions, both contemporary and enduring;

Intellectual and Practical Skills, including inquiry and analysis, critical and creative thinking, written and oral communication, quantitative literacy, information literacy, undergraduate research and teamwork and problem solving in the context of progressively more challenging problems, projects, and standards for performance;

Personal and Social Responsibility, including civic knowledge and engagement, both local and global, intercultural knowledge and competence, ethical reasoning and action and foundations and skills for lifelong learning, all of which actively engage students with diverse communities and real-world challenges;

Integrative Learning, including synthesis and advanced accomplishment across general and specialized studies, which students may demonstrate through application of knowledge, skills and responsibilities to new settings and complex problems.

(AACU's Liberal Education & America's Promise,

http://www.aacu.org/leap/GlobalCentury_ExecSum_3.pdf) To further our mission, the Strategic Plan of the College of Arts and Sciences sets out strategies in vital areas:

- I. Advance the scope and quality of academic programs.
- II. Advance the strengths and scholarly engagement of the faculty.
- III. Advance community outreach and partnerships.
- IV. Advance the funding base of the College.

Office of the Dean

College of Arts & Sciences

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