

Student Learning Framework

In the Division of Student Affairs, we believe that learning can happen anywhere and everywhere.

We offer places, programs, and opportunities that allow students to step outside the classroom and continue to develop knowledge, skills, and competencies that will serve them while they are enrolled at Iowa State and beyond.

The ten competencies in the Student Learning Framework provide a common language across the Division of Student Affairs for describing the learning that occurs for students through our co-curricular programming, employment, and services.



Professionalism

Knowing work environments differ greatly, understand and demonstrate effective work habits, and act in the interest of the larger community and workplace.

- Act with integrity and accountability to self, others, and the organization.
- Be present and prepared.
- Demonstrate dependability.
- Show dedication toward doing a good job.



Career Development

Proactively develop oneself and one's career through continual personal and professional learning, awareness of one's professional strengths and weaknesses, navigation of career opportunities, and networking to build relationships within and outside one's organization.

- Develop plans and goals for one's future career.
- Assume duties or positions that will help one progress professionally.
- Seek and embrace professional development opportunities.
- Establish, maintain, and/or leverage relationships with people who can help one professionally.



Self-Development

Cultivating self-awareness by defining one's beliefs, values, strengths, and personal ethical code. Aligning personal actions with purpose and taking responsibility for both positive and negative outcomes associated with one's actions.

- Show an awareness of one's own strengths and areas for development.
- Identify areas for continual growth while pursuing and applying feedback.
- Display curiosity; seek out opportunities to learn.



Communication

Clearly and effectively exchanging information, ideas, facts, and perspectives with people inside and outside of an organization.

- Understand the importance of and demonstrate verbal, written, and nonverbal language abilities.
- Employ active listening and influencing skills.
- Communicate in a clear and organized manner so that others can effectively understand.
- Ask appropriate questions when necessary.
- Inform relevant others when needing guidance.



Citizenship

Demonstrate the awareness, attitude, knowledge, and skills required to engage and include people from different local and global communities. Recognize the interconnectedness of global societies and local communities, and the importance of contributing meaningfully to society.

- Identify and advocate for solutions that benefit the communities in which one lives, works, and learns.
- Understand interconnectedness of communities.
- Participate in university, local, and national elections and government.
- Engage in philanthropic activities and perform community service.



Leadership

Recognize and capitalize on personal and team strengths to develop team members to achieve organizational goals.

- Inspire, persuade, and motivate self and others around a shared vision.
- Seek and leverage a variety of people and resources to inform direction.
- Serve as a role model to others by approaching tasks with confidence and a positive attitude.
- Plan, initiate, manage, complete, and evaluate tasks.
- Motivate, mentor, and inspire others by encouraging them and building mutual trust.



Teamwork

Build and maintain collaborative relationships to work effectively toward common goals, while appreciating multiple viewpoints and shared responsibilities.

- Effectively manage conflict.
- Interact with and respect others.
- Be accountable for individual and team responsibilities and deliverables.
- Employ personal strengths, knowledge, and talents to complement those of others.
- Collaborate with others to achieve common goals.
- Build strong, positive working relationships with supervisor and peers/coworkers.



Innovative and Critical Thinking

Identify and respond to needs based upon an understanding of situational context and logical analysis of relevant information. Acquire knowledge, skills, and experiences and apply academic and job-based learning in novel and innovative ways.

- Make decisions and solve problems using sound reasoning and informed judgment.
- Use innovative thinking to go beyond traditional methods.
- Gather and analyze information from various sources and individuals to fully understand a problem.
- Proactively anticipate needs and prioritize action steps.
- Accurately summarize and interpret data with an awareness of personal experiences that may impact outcomes.
- Effectively communicate actions and rationale, recognizing the different perspectives and experiences of stakeholders.



Technology

Understand, learn, and leverage technologies ethically to enhance efficiencies, complete tasks, and accomplish goals.

- Navigate change and be open to learning new technologies.
- Quickly adapt to new or unfamiliar technologies.
- Use technology to improve efficiency and productivity of one's work.
- Identify appropriate technology for completing specific tasks.
- Manage technology to integrate information to support relevant, effective, and timely decision-making.



Wellness

An active process through which people cultivate a well-rounded and satisfying life by engaging in meaningful work. This involves maintaining physical wellness, managing emotions, finding purpose, fostering positive relationships, continuously learning, supporting the natural environment, and making responsible financial choices.

- Engage in work that aligns with personal values.
- Pursue regular physical movement, a nutritious diet, adequate sleep, and practice safe behaviors.
- Identify and express a wide variety of feelings in an appropriate manner.
- Expand one's sense of purpose and meaning based on a core set of values and beliefs.
- Establish a sense of connection and belonging through positive interpersonal relationships.
- Seek to expand knowledge, skills, and creative abilities.
- Choose a lifestyle of committed effort towards sustaining the Earth's natural environment.
- Make responsible decisions to live within your means and set financial goals that will positively impact your financial future.