

GENERAL EDUCATION

General Education courses are offered on all *SJVC* campuses including Online.

Philosophy

SJVC believes a well-rounded education is essential to a successful career. General Education courses are integrated into the programs at *SJVC* and are designed to give students a diverse educational experience. Our General Education curriculum introduces students to the major areas of knowledge and guides them to develop thoughtful perspectives about life, others, and the world around them.

Breadth

To be a well-rounded educated person, it is vital that college graduates experience the variety of major areas of knowledge: communication, mathematics, humanities, natural sciences and social sciences. At *SJVC*, we have chosen a core curriculum of introductory courses designed to give students a broad experience in each knowledge area, encouraging inquiry and literacy throughout the curriculum.

Depth

The competencies of General Education can be found within each course a student takes at *SJVC*. In both General Education and vocationally-focused courses students will write, use technology, perform computations, and interact with others in a professional and ethical manner. Through our hands-on activities and real-world applications, *SJVC* students practice the skills of critical thinking and analysis while anticipating future career situations. Through this cross-curricular approach to General Education skills and competencies, students gain a full education.

Rigor

To ensure application and retention of General Education principles, *SJVC* students are consistently challenged to apply their new knowledge to real-life situations in their careers and personal lives. Authentic activities and assessment help measure their success. Through regular Program Review, using data, experience, and comparison to other accredited institutions as a framework, *SJVC* strives to ensure our General Education courses meet an appropriate level of rigor for college courses.

General Education Outcomes

PLOs

While General Education is not a program in and of itself at *SJVC*, but rather an integral part of each program offered, you will find the tenets of General Education represented within the Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) of all of our career programs.

Upon completion of all programs at *SJVC*, the graduate will be able to: Relate and apply concepts of communication, reasoning, critical analysis, ethical behavior and appropriate interpersonal interaction to situations in his or her career and personal life.

Each program, through its Assessment Plan, identifies all of the courses and SLOs within the program that leads students to the achievement of this outcome, whether the course is vocational in nature or one of the General Education courses

ILOs

General Education courses tie directly to the Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs) of *SJVC*. Our ILOs state that all graduates shall be professional, confident, skilled, educated citizens and communicators, and we find that General Education courses play a vital role in helping our students accomplish these outcomes. The Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) for each General Education course connect directly with, and provide assessment of, these ILOs.

