VICTOR VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

INSTRUCTION   CHAPTER 4
A.S./A.A. Criteria

Philosophy and Criteria for Associate Degree and General Education   AP 4025

Students who complete the General Education requirements at Victor Valley College will attain the knowledge and skills listed below for each category.

Category I: Natural Sciences
1. Define and discuss the basic principles, concepts, and theories of the natural sciences.
2. Explain and apply the methods scientists use to explore natural phenomena, including observation, hypothesis, measurement, experimentation, evaluation of evidence, and quantitative analysis.
3. Critically evaluate the limitation, sustainability, and social impact of scientific study.

Category II: Social and Behavioral Sciences
1. Discuss and apply the central theoretical concepts and methods of contemporary social or behavioral science.
2. Critically analyze individual or social behavior in a variety of contexts, including contemporary, historical, Western, non-Western, and minority.
3. Identify and evaluate the foundations and principles of responsible citizenship, including the rights, responsibilities, and routes of participation for citizens.

Category III: Humanities
1. Identify, discuss, and evaluate works of major philosophical, historical, literary, artistic, and/or cultural importance.
2. Critically analyze conceptions of human meaning and forms of self-expression and self-understanding that represent the perspectives of different periods of time, cultures, social and ethnic groups.
3. Reason effectively about values, including the application of ethical principles and ethical analysis of proposed solutions to social problems.

Category IV: Language & Rationality
A. English Composition
1. Compose a variety of essays and revise these compositions for clarity, organization, and mechanical and grammatical correctness.
2. Summarize, synthesize, and paraphrase various types of source materials.
3. Define, access, and evaluate research information from a variety of sources and using a variety of tools.
4. Prepare documented research papers using a variety of resource material and MLA citation/documentation.

B. Communication & Analytical Thinking
    1. Create and deliver oral presentations that are suitable to the topic, purpose, and audience.
    2. Communicate orally with civility and attention to diversity using a wide range of media and in a variety of settings.
    3. Actively listen with literal and critical comprehension of ideas and information transmitted in oral language.
    4. Recognize, analyze, and evaluate arguments, including the identification of common logical errors or fallacies of language and thought.
    5. Reason soundly using elementary inductive and deductive processes.
    6. Distinguish fact from judgment, belief from knowledge, and assumption from conclusion.

Category V: Mathematics
1. Communicate mathematical concepts formally, using appropriate notation and terminology, and informally by using everyday language.
2. Effectively organize, present, interpret, and summarize quantitative information using symbolic, numerical and graphical methods.
3. Solve problems by evaluating the available information and type of problem, choosing an appropriate technique, applying the technique, and verifying whether or not the solution is reasonable.
4. Use mathematical concepts and methods to understand, analyze, and express applications in quantitative terms.

Category VI: Information Competency*
1. Determine the nature and extent of information needed and identify a variety of types of formats of potential sources of information.
2. Utilize research tools and/or the Internet to effectively locate and retrieve information resources.
3. Analyze and evaluate information using the criteria of credibility, relevance, authority, currency, and point of view or bias.
4. Organize and communicate information for a specific purpose and in accordance with legal and academic standards.

*Demonstrated by successful completion of English 101 or an Information Competency project.