

## UNIVERSITY LIBERAL LEARNING CURRICULUM

Principles of Liberal Learning: Christopher Newport University involves students in a rich, multifaceted tradition of intellectual exploration grounded in the common principles of liberal learning. The program of study develops students' capacities of empowerment, knowledge and responsibility, whose key intellectual and personal attributes are enumerated below. All coursework at CNU—whether in the liberal learning core, in the major, or in elective courses or courses in a minor—seeks to introduce, reinforce, and advance student aptitude in these primary capacities.

**The Essential Learning Outcomes**

Beginning in school and continuing at successively higher levels across their college studies, students prepare for twenty-first century challenges by gaining:

- Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World through study in the sciences and mathematics, social sciences, humanities, histories, languages, and the arts. **Focused** by engagement with 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; teamwork and problem solving. **Practiced extensively**, across the curriculum, in the context of progressively more challenging problems, projects, and standards for performance.
- Personal and Social Responsibility, including: civic knowledge and engagement – local and global; intercultural knowledge and competence; ethical reasoning and action; foundations and skills for lifelong learning. **Anchored** through active involvement with diverse communities and real-world challenges.
- Integrative Learning, including synthesis and advanced accomplishment across general and specialized studies. **Demonstrated** through the application of knowledge, skills, and responsibilities to new setting and complex problems.

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**ULLC 100. First Year Seminar (3-3-0)**

Through unique courses tied to a common theme, the First Year Seminar focuses on the intellectual expectations and values of the academic community, and encourages participation in the broader culture of the University. The seminar emphasizes the foundational disciplines at the core of liberal learning: critical thinking; analytical reading; effective writing and speaking; informed curiosity; problem solving; locating and evaluating information through research; and student participation in artistic, intellectual, service, and cultural events on campus. The specific seminar topics are listed at: <http://liberallearning.cnu.edu/documents/FYSMBookletFinal.pdf>.

**COLL 150. The Intentional Learner (2-2-0)**

*Prerequisite: academic probation status.*

*Spring.*

The student will understand the significance of a liberal arts education, examine his/her role in and responsibility for learning, understand and apply college study skills, comprehend university policies and procedures, develop long- and short-term goals for college success, and explore career goals through preparation for academic advising, major exploration and clarification of the decision-making process. The course will also give attention to college reading and its centrality to academic achievement.