

THE CENTRALITY OF GENERAL EDUCATION IN THE CURRICULUM

Honolulu Community College believes in unlimited human potential. General Education is a process whereby lifelong learners grow and fulfill that potential. General Education support individuals in the quest to become whole, complete persons by encouraging development in areas such as thought, communication, ethical deliberation, creativity, feeling, empathy, adaptability, and awareness. General Education proves foundation skills necessary for successful living in the ever-changing, global environment.

In addition to encouraging uniqueness and personal development, General Education provides the commonalties which enable us to collaborate and achieve community. Indeed, as we face the challenges inherent in human existence, General Education is a key to solving the problems of survival for individuals, communities, nations, and the species.

General Education has comprehensive learning outcomes for the students who complete it, including the following:

- A. An understanding of the basic content and methodology of the major areas of knowledge: these areas include the humanities and fine arts, the natural sciences, and the social sciences.
- B. A capability to be a productive individual and life long learner: These skills include oral and written communication, information competency, computer literacy, scientific and quantitative reasoning, critical analysis/logical thinking, and the ability to acquire knowledge through a variety of means.
- C. A recognition of what it means to be an ethical human being and effective citizen: These qualities include an appreciation of ethical principles; civility and interpersonal skills; respect for cultural diversity; historical and aesthetic sensitivity; and the willingness to assume civic, political, and social responsibilities locally, nationally, and globally.