

# SOUTHWEST UNIVERSITY OF VISUAL ARTS

## GENERAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT MISSION AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

### **Mission**

General Education integrates high academic standards, critical thinking, problem solving, and communication skills to provide a breadth of knowledge that lays the foundation for a life of learning.

### **Learning Outcomes**

All programs of study at SUVA are designed around a set of common achievement criteria to ensure continuity of student learning throughout the institution. These Continuity Strands serve as learning outcomes for our General Education department.

#### **Cognition Strand**

Upon completion of their program of study, students can:

- Critical Thinking – comprehensively explore issues, ideas, artifacts, and events before formulating an opinion or conclusion.
- Creative Thinking – combine or synthesize ideas with a high degree of innovation, divergent thinking, and risk taking.
- Information Literacy – identify, locate, evaluate, and responsibly use information to solve a problem.
- Inquiry and Analysis – systematically collect and analyze evidence to formulate conclusions.
- Integrative Learning – transfer previous learning to new situations or contexts.
- Lifelong Learning – purposefully undertake learning activities on an ongoing basis with the aim of improving knowledge, skills, and competence.
- Problem Solving – design, evaluate, and implement strategies to answer open-ended questions or achieve a desired goal.

#### **Communication Strand**

Upon completion of their program of study, students can:

- Oral Communication – deliver a purposeful, prepared presentation to share knowledge or promote change in the listener's attitudes, values, beliefs, or behaviors.
- Written Communication – clearly express ideas in writing.
- Reading and Comprehension – extract and construct shared meaning with a writer or speaker.

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### **Citizenship Strand**

Upon completion of their program of study, students can:

- Ethical Reasoning – assess their own ethical values, and analyze situations within their social context while considering a variety of perspectives.
- Global Learning – analyze complex issues, take responsible action, and evaluate the results of their actions within the expanded context of a system.
- Intercultural Knowledge – act and interact appropriately in a variety of cultural contexts.
- Civic Engagement – engage in activities intended to make a difference in the civic life of their local, regional, and global communities.
- Teamwork – effectively collaborate with others to achieve a shared goal.