

CORE Perspectives

Contemporary Issues in Science (CS)

Rationale: Contemporary Issues in Science courses develop familiarity with how scientists apply methods to explore scientific questions and real-world problems, identify and reflect on ethical claims regarding scientific research and its applications to contemporary problems or challenges while acknowledging the conflicting values that underlie these claims, and engage constructively in open discussions about contemporary issues and ethical or moral dilemmas in science.

Thus, the Core Quality developed in Contemporary Issues in Science courses is “Thinker and Problem Solver” and “Local and Global Citizen”

Diversity (D)

Rationale: Diversity courses examine race, gender, sexuality, social class, ethnicity, nationality, indigeneity or other social differences and place them in their historical or contemporary contexts.

Thus, the Core Quality developed in Diversity courses is “Local and Global Citizen.”

Inquiry (IA, IH, IN, IS)

Rationale: Every Inquiry course develops familiarity with the methods used to discover and create the factual and theoretical knowledge of various disciplines. Each course will examine particular issues in the discipline while exploring its methodological and theoretical foundations.

Inquiry Arts: Courses in the Arts will explore the production and consumption of meaning and value through forms of expression that communicate, in both logical and emotional terms, the arts.

Inquiry Humanities: Courses in the Humanities will explore ethical and moral, aesthetic and creative, historical and descriptive dimensions of human cultural traditions, emphasizing methods of reaching a conclusion, formulating an interpretation, or making a judgment in the discipline.

Inquiry Natural Sciences: Courses in Natural Sciences will emphasize a coherent body of scientific principles and the methods scientists use to create knowledge of the natural world.

Inquiry Social Sciences: Courses in the Social Sciences will emphasize methods and principles used by social scientists to systematically study human behavior.

Thus, the Core Qualities developed in Inquiry courses include “Thinking and Problem Solver” and either “Communicator” or “Local and Global Citizens.”

Quantitative Reasoning (Q)

Rationale: Quantitative Reasoning courses develop computational and analytical skills, the ability to reason about and solve real-world problems, as well as create and critically evaluate arguments supported by quantitative evidence.

Thus, the Core Quality developed in Quantitative Reasoning courses is “Thinker and Problem Solver.”

Research & Creative Experience (R)

Rationale: Research & Creative Experience courses are a culminating experience where seniors complete a project in their major program of study that integrates and synthesizes what they have learned at MSU, or a course outside the major area of study to further develop the Core Qualities students have developed through their other Core courses.

Thus, all three Core Qualities are applied in Research & Creative Experience courses.

University Seminar (US)

Rationale: University Seminar introduces and develops Core Qualities through multidisciplinary readings and collegiate level discourse. The seminar is designed to engage students in meaningful and respectful knowledge exchange with others, help students develop a strong sense of self and self-awareness through an exploration of their own values and beliefs and the values and beliefs of their peers, and foster a commitment to learning and excellence.

Thus, all three Core Qualities are introduced and developed in University Seminar.

Written Communication (W)

Rationale: Written Communication courses develop written and verbal communication skills in ways that will facilitate success at communicating knowledge, ideas and information clearly and effectively in academic, workplace and community settings.

Thus, the Core Quality developed in Written Communication courses is “Communicator.”