DSO Purposeful Learning Domains

Reporting through the Division of Student Affairs, the Dean of Students Office (DSO) at Iowa State University uses an integrated approach to support student-centered learning through personal, community and academic development culminating in a transformative experience. The fourteen departments that comprise the DSO create and support a common community experience for Iowa State University students within four spheres of influence: Student Life, Student Success and Retention, Social Justice and Inclusion, and Wellness. This collaborative model promotes student learning across seven Purposeful Learning Domains which are based on the Frameworks for Assessing Learning and Development Outcomes published by the Council for the Advancement of Standards in 2006. The DSO is committed to the success of each student and these learning domains are systematically integrated across all units. Students who engage in DSO programs and services will advance their knowledge in these domains.

Responsibility

Students will accept the consequences of their decisions and actions, and understand how their choices impact their individual success as well as the experiences of others. Responsible students demonstrate the capacity to be trusted to do what is required, what is expected, and/or what is morally or ethically right in various settings and contexts.

Examples include: Managing one’s time and tasks effectively ■ Intervening as a bystander to prevent sexual violence ■ Abiding by the Student Disciplinary Regulations ■ Completing academic assignments honestly ■ Being a reliable group member or leader ■ Reporting incidents of bias or harassment ■ Observing health and safety protocols ■ Demonstrating honor, respect, and care for others

Self-Understanding

Students will develop a holistic awareness of their personality, character, strengths, and obstacles. Students will trust their internal voice (or sense of self) as they refine their beliefs, values, and identities; building on this understanding as they establish collaborative relationships with others.

Examples include: Visiting the counseling center to talk about managing stress ■ Taking courses that encourage learning about yourself, such as CLPS 122x: Leading with Purpose ■ Attending programs or lectures ■ Sharing your story with others ■ Participating in StrengthQuests Strengthfinder, or similar personality assessments

Community

In and through their relationships with others, students will experience being a part of a community: learning their roles, the values of the larger community, and how to make a positive contribution. Through these opportunities, students will learn about values and ethics, and experience diverse cultures and environments. In community, everyone matters, feels valued, and participates.

Examples include: Serving as a Community Advisor, Cyclone Aide, or Peer Mentor ■ Being an elected or appointed leader ■ Being a member of an intramural, sport club, or other athletic team ■ Volunteering at a local agency ■ Participating in a community organizing event, National Student Exchange, or service learning activity ■ Being a LGBTQ ally
Leadership: Engagement \ Self-Efficacy \ Empowerment

Students will develop knowledge, skills, and attitudes to enhance their personal growth and development through various informal and formal leadership roles. Student leaders demonstrate concern for the well-being of others as they make decisions, contribute to campus and community life, and inspire change for the common good.

*Examples include:* Participating as an active community member ■ Serving on the executive board for a student organization ■ Earning a Leadership Certificate ■ Organizing a program or event ■ Working on campus as a peer educator or student supervisor ■ Attending a leadership program like Leadership ISU ■ Coordinating a group project ■ Being a member of the All University Judiciary Board

Civic Engagement: Awareness \ Action \ Advocacy

Civically engaged students will recognize themselves as integral members of both the local and global social fabric and consider social justice and care for others as inherent aspects of our individual and collective responsibilities to make a difference in the world.

*Examples include:* Attending cultural events or campus lectures ■ Donating to a food pantry ■ Volunteering to clean the environment ■ Intervening as a bystander to prevent bullying ■ Participating in “Take Back the Night” ■ Raising money for cancer research ■ Completing an academic service learning project ■ Working with the legislature to contain tuition costs and student indebtedness ■ Collaborating to create policy change

Well-being: Capacity \ Resiliency \ Healthy Choices

Students will prioritize personal wellness and seek ways to maintain a sense of balance during both difficult and positive parts of their experience; building capacity to navigate personal and professional challenges and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

*Examples include:* Seeking assistance when unexpected life events occur ■ Recognizing personal stress levels ■ Prioritizing time management strategies ■ Joining a fitness class ■ Making intentional decisions on what substances go into your body ■ Participating in a student club ■ Learning a new skill or hobby ■ Prioritizing healthy eating and sleeping habits ■ Taking an appropriate credit load ■ Proactively seeking campus and community resources

Life-Long Learning: Discovery \ Curiosity \ Critical Thinking

Students will be prepared for success during and beyond their undergraduate experience. Students will demonstrate the ability to reflect on their actions, appreciate lessons learned and adapt for the future, and integrate in-class and out-of-class learning into their career exploration and decision-making processes.

*Examples include:* Understanding knowledge from a range of disciplines ■ Thinking critically to resolve complex problems ■ Using mental health or career services ■ Completing an internship ■ Connecting knowledge to daily life ■ Applying lessons learned through academic coaching ■ Graduating and becoming active alumni