1. General Education Rationale [catalog statement]

General education helps students develop knowledge and abilities useful to all programs of study. The purpose of general education at Lane Community College is to foster wisdom through educational depth and breadth. General education at Lane has the following goals:

- to encourage exploration of the academic disciplines: liberal arts, sciences, mathematics, information sciences, and social sciences
- to promote understandings of self, society, and the environment crucial to citizens of a diverse global community, and
- to cultivate habits of mind and heart essential to lifelong learners.

Core Ability Outcomes Statements—students completing general education will:

1. Communicate effectively
2. Think critically and solve problems effectively
3. Increase understanding of the relationship between self and community, including self-awareness, personal responsibility, and the development of cultural competence
4. Explore academic disciplines

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2. Expanded Core Ability Outcomes Statements—*to be used as criteria in determining whether courses meet general education outcomes. Courses which meet one of the goals stated in the rationale, with principal focus on one or more of the bulleted points below, may be included on the lists meeting general education degree requirements.*

Students completing general education will:

1. Communicate effectively

- demonstrate understanding and use of effective and respectful listening, interpersonal, small group/collaborative, and public communication skills among diverse populations
- demonstrate effective writing skills through principles of clear thinking; awareness of audience; appropriate conventions of format, structure, and language; and clear thesis development
- be able to read critically for information; develop new ways of seeing and understanding the world; understand points of view and multiple perspectives
- demonstrate general information literacy: critically analyze, synthesize, and evaluate various forms of information including written texts and other media
- develop understanding of another culture through language study

2. Think critically and solve problems effectively

- apply the scientific method, incorporating the appropriate mathematical skills or processes as needed in various problem solving contexts
- interpret, translate, and communicate quantitative information expressed in mathematical notation, graphs, charts, tables, symbols, or standard English
- interpret and make inferences from data; estimate outcomes where appropriate
- determine whether conclusions or solutions are reasonable, using inductive and deductive reasoning
- apply technology competently, selecting and using tools appropriate to tasks

3. Increase understanding of the relationship between self and community, including self-awareness and personal responsibility

- describe interacting facets of environmental and personal health, and identify steps to protect and preserve environmental resources
- plan, implement, and evaluate lifestyle change strategies which contribute to optimal physical and mental health
- describe core aspects of today's integrated global society, including historical perspective, cross-cultural variation, gender issues, as well as group function, interaction and change

4. Explore academic disciplines of liberal arts, social sciences, and physical sciences

- value artistic expression and human creativity
- understand fundamental concepts of physical and life sciences
- understand diverse roots of our nation and world civilizations
- understand the role and appropriate uses of technology in our global society