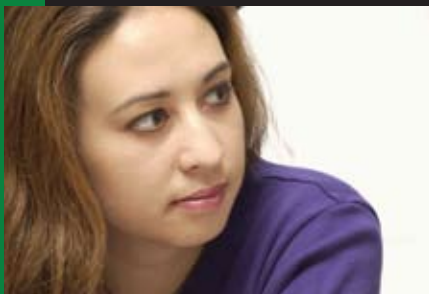




about general education

One of the principles on which a modern university rests is the assumption that there is an important difference between learning to make a living and building the foundation for a life. While the first goal is important, the second is fundamental. How does a person build the foundation for a life that is worthwhile, interesting, and of service?

This is your opportunity to lay the foundation for the rest of your life, and to define yourself as an educated member of the human community.



In focusing on the student's development as a whole or "educated" person, a university distinguishes itself from a trade school. The goal of a university education is not simply the acquisition and application of knowledge, but

the creation of a person who firmly grasps the worth of clear thinking and knows how to do it; who understands and appreciates the differences between peoples and cultures as well as their similarities; who has a sense of history and social forces; who can express thought clearly and has quantitative ability; who knows something about the arts as well as how to enjoy them; who can talk and think intelligently about the physical and

life sciences, the humanities, and literature; a person, above all, who has the desire and capability for learning. This is why a university degree is so highly valued by individuals, employers and the community at large.

The General Education Program is designed to educate in this holistic sense. Thus, it is not simply a series of courses to complete or hoops for students to jump through as they complete the courses in their major. Rather, general education lies at the heart of what a university education is all about.

Therefore, as you—the student—choose your General Education courses, think carefully about your selections. Actively seek out subject areas that are new to you and that "push your limits." Select courses that may challenge your world-view or cherished assumptions, and that offer new experiences, such as inquiry-based or community-based learning. In short, don't take the easy way out. This is your opportunity to lay the foundation for the rest of your life, and to define yourself as an educated member of the human community. Your time at the University is precious and the General Education Program has been designed to help you begin the process of becoming a truly educated person. In deciding to pursue a university degree, you have chosen well. Now, make the best use of the opportunities open to you!