Bachelor of General Studies

Mission Statement: The College of Arts and Sciences offers the vast majority of the general education courses that serve as background for all degrees. The College also offers a variety of major and minor degree programs leading to many successful careers, with computer technology integrated throughout all majors and courses.

Goal Statement: The Bachelor of General Studies degree prepares students for professional positions requiring a college-level ability in writing, critical thinking, technology use and information processing, as well as preparation in three of the following emphasis areas: allied health, business, education, fine arts, humanities, social sciences, wellness, technology, or science, engineering and mathematics.

Assessment Plan:

Student Outcome 1: Students will be knowledgeable in the basic areas of reading, writing, mathematics, and science reasoning.

Assessment Criteria:

a. CAAP Assessment: 80% of students will score at or above the passing level set by the SD Board of Regents in reading.
b. CAAP Assessment: 80% of students will score at or above the passing level set by the SD Board of Regents in writing.
c. CAAP Assessment: 80% of students will score at or above the passing level set by the SD Board of Regents in mathematics.
d. CAAP Assessment: 80% of students will score at or above the passing level set by the SD Board of Regents in science reasoning.

Student Outcome 2: Students will be knowledgeable and competent in computer literacy.

Assessment Criteria:

a. Technology exam: 75% of students will satisfactorily complete the exam for computer competency.

Student Outcome 3: Students will be able to evaluate and synthesize information from their three areas of emphasis, and professional and personal experiences.

Assessment Criterion:

a. GS 491 Capstone Course: 80% of graduates will successfully complete General Statement and Discussion Essay outlining what academic, professional, and personal interests led them to pursue their three areas of emphasis in the BGS degree.

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b. Alumni Survey: 70% of graduates will indicate that they are satisfied with their overall professional capabilities.

**Student Outcome 4 3:** Students will demonstrate their proficiency in locating information and ideas in scholarly sources.

**Assessment Criteria:**

a. GS 491 Capstone Course: 80% of students will successfully complete a 15-page research paper on a topic which encompasses and synthesizes their three areas of emphasis.

**Student Outcome 5 4:** Students will demonstrate their proficiency in scholarly writing and applying writing conventions of appropriate style manuals (MLA, APA, ASA).

**Assessment Criteria:**

a. GS 491 Capstone Course: 75% of students will successfully complete a 15-page research paper on a topic which includes scholarly sources from their three areas of emphasis, appropriately cited in the paper and the “works cited” page.

**Student Outcome 6 5:** Students will demonstrate proficiency in marketing themselves for employment which fits their professional and personal career goals.

**Assessment Criteria:**

a. GS 491 Capstone Course: 75% of students will create a competitive resume/vita which highlights the strengths and skills needed for their desired occupational field.