



Catalog of Learning Outcomes by Core

King's College reinforces the coherence and integrity of knowledge in the structure of the Core Curriculum. The Core divides required courses into 3 parts and 14 categories. Each category has clear and specific liberal learning goals and objectives for all courses within it. These goals and objectives include numerous connections between categories.

The goals and learning outcomes of the Core Curriculum at King's are as follows:

1. Competence in writing, speaking, critical reading and thinking, problem solving using mathematics, and making effective use of library and information resources. Successful achievement of this goal will enable students to:

Writing:

- Demonstrate the comprehensive skills necessary to become a proficient writer.
- Convey – implicitly or explicitly – a significant central idea in a piece of writing.
- Demonstrate organization and cohesion in their writing.
- Support a central idea and sub-topics with thoughtfully chosen evidence and details appropriate to the purpose and genre.
- Incorporate effectively and document properly sources that are reliable, accurate, and relevant.
- Exhibit master of the conventions of standard written English.

2. Display sentence variety and control over syntax.

Speaking:

- Develop and establish clear, main, sub, and supporting ideas for messages.
- Structure effective introductions, conclusions, and design patterns (for the body) within messages.
- Select & execute language for messages that is correct, concise, concrete, colorful, and clear.
- Effectively deliver messages (verbally & non-verbally) from appropriate performance outlines.

Problem Solving Using Mathematics:

- Convert information into various mathematical forms.
- Perform calculations successfully.
- Explain information presented in mathematical forms.
- Analyze a problem's framework, including generalizations of the problem and how modifying the problem's assumptions will affect conclusions that can be drawn from the problem.

Critical Reading and Thinking:

- Annotate, outline, and summarize a text, including identification of the tone, purpose, audience, and main idea.
- Find and evaluate sources from a variety of mediums and determine the validity of the evidence presented by these sources.
- Synthesize materials from valid and reputable sources to express ideas, formulate positions, and construct arguments.
- Weigh information to make decisions that logically follow from arguments and evidence.
- Critically evaluate arguments, thereby demonstrating proficiency in introductory logic and critical reasoning.

Effective Use of Library and Information Resources:

- Define and articulate the extent and type of information needed.
- Access the needed information effectively and efficiently.
- Interpret and evaluate information and its sources critically.
- Use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose.
- Access and use information ethically and legally.

3. A critical understanding of history, civilization, art, and literature. Successful achievement of this goal will enable students to:

- Identify basic forms of literary language.
 - Discuss and analyze formal features of various literary texts.
 - Explain relationships between form and content within a text.
 - Develop an interpretation of a text that adheres to the basic rules of analysis.
 - Analyze the expressive qualities of art within a conceptual and societal context.
 - Create and exhibit a piece of art.
 - Frame questions and formulate theses about historical problems.
 - Compare, contrast, and evaluate the relative merits of arguments and interpretations in primary sources of history.
 - Organize and communicate effectively about historical ideas and problems in written form.
4. A critical understanding of the American experience. Successful achievement of this goal will enable students to:
- Identify and articulate the diverse political, social, economic, cultural, and intellectual forces that have given shape to U.S. society, institutions, and culture.
 - Make connections across disciplines to define and critique notions of U.S. identity and culture.
 - Effectively navigate and use the various scholarly resources related to the study of the U.S.
5. A sophisticated awareness of global issues and a knowledge of foreign cultures. Successful achievement of this goal will enable students to:
- Identify the interconnected nature of global systems.
 - Define cultural diversity in a global context.
 - Apply interdisciplinary knowledge and methodology to understand contemporary global issues.
 - Demonstrate proficiency in intercultural knowledge, including verbal and non-verbal communication.
 - Demonstrate curiosity about another culture
 - Take the perspective of the people of another culture to evaluate problems, decisions, or events.
 - Orally communicate a message in a target language.
 - Write sentences, paragraphs, and/or essays in a target language.
 - Comprehend spoken communication in a target language.
 - Read written communication in a target language.
6. An understanding of human behavior and social institutions through the application of the social scientific method. Successful achievement of this goal will enable students to:
- Apply the methods of the social science(s) to the study of human social behavior.
 - Demonstrate knowledge of ethical principles within the social science(s).
 - Read and critically evaluate theoretical and empirical social science related material.
 - Apply social science concepts to one's self and others.
7. A facility with the scientific method and knowledge of how it is applied to understand the natural world. Successful achievement of this goal will enable students to:
- Distinguish between science and other fields of knowledge and human experience.
 - Implement the scientific method to design an experiment that tests an original hypothesis.
 - Distinguish legitimate scientific methodologies from those of non-science.
 - Effectively and intelligently communicate with others about recent discoveries and trends in the natural sciences.
8. Mature, critical, informed beliefs and a facility with ethical reasoning. Successful achievement of this goal will enable students to:
- Demonstrate proficiency in foundational knowledge of philosophy.
 - Explain a central theological concept or doctrine with precision, accuracy, and depth.
 - Differentiate between articulations of a concept or doctrine of theology.
 - Evaluate, defend, or construct a theological position concerning a part of the human experience.
 - Explain central vocabulary and themes, and recognize plot structure, genre, and immediate literary context of a Testament passage.
 - Analyze a biblical passage by using contemporary critical methods of biblical study.
 - Evaluate, defend, or construct a claim about the implications of a Testament passage.

- Explain central concepts of moral theology with precision, accuracy, and depth.
- Defend—upon reflection—positions about what is right.
- Demonstrate increased sophistication in evaluation of actions, by moving from evaluation based upon one's immediate interests, to evaluation based upon social expectations, to evaluation based upon principles.
- Hold ethically defensible views.

All of these goals are developed through a series of Core courses in several categories. Each category defines specific, measurable, objectives students can expect to attain within each course in the category.