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Vision, Mission, Values, & Institutional Student Learning Outcomes

ARC Vision

American River College is a premier learning community that transforms and enriches people's lives.

ARC Mission

American River College is a public community college granting certificates and associate degrees. The college primarily serves residents of the six-county Greater Sacramento region who are capable of benefiting from community college instruction. This service is provided through traditional classroom instruction, off-campus centers, and distance education.

ARC exists to 1) assure students identify their educational goals and needs and 2) successfully accomplish learning in the four educational areas, listed below in alphabetical order:

- **Career and technical education** to achieve employment or enhanced career skills for job advancement.
- **Developmental education** to achieve basic foundation skills in reading, writing, mathematics, English as a Second Language, and learning and study skills which are necessary for students to succeed in college-level work.
- **General education** to achieve knowledge, skills and attitudes for post-secondary education success, personal enrichment, self-development, and a purposeful and meaningful life as a member of a global community.
- **Lower division post-secondary education** to achieve transfer to and success in obtaining a degree at a four-year post-secondary education institution.

ARC Values (listed in alphabetical order)

Access

Students are the reason we are here, and their education is our primary responsibility. We recognize that residents of the region should have an opportunity to enroll and be successful in college.

Benefit of Education

Individuals who have the opportunities to (1) develop their abilities, (2) engage in critical and creative thinking, (3) participate in lifelong learning, (4) succeed in a competitive global work environment, and (5) exhibit responsible citizenship benefit society as well as themselves.

Communication

Achieving the ARC mission and vision requires effective communication within the college and with the communities served by the college; civil and honest, this communication should promote mutual respect and trust.

Community Development

The college's curriculum in the arts, humanities, sciences, social sciences, mathematics, career and technical education, and the college's co-curricular programs and support services benefit the community by promoting cognitive development, intellectual growth, physical well-being, student volunteerism, and economic progress.

Diversity

Because ARC is a community valuing the varied perspectives and experiences of students, faculty and staff, the college offers educational opportunities for enhancing cultural awareness, supporting diversity, and promoting the free exchange of ideas and the development of a culturally competent and inclusive college community.

Employees

As our most valued resource, faculty and staff members are entitled to a safe, secure and supportive work environment and a culture that recognizes excellence, encourages meaningful involvement in interest-based, decision-making process; and provides opportunities for professional development, service and leadership.

Excellence

Excellence is essential for accomplishing ARC's mission to help students identify their educational goals and achieve successful learning and for supporting the college's employees and serving ARC's community and region.

Fiscal Responsibility

Observing fiscally sound, efficient, transparent, and accountable practices is essential to achieving our mission.

Innovation and Risk Taking

Creativity, flexibility and responsible risk-taking support achievement of the college's mission.

Leadership

Responsible leadership and service by faculty, staff and students is actively cultivated so the college can achieve improvement in student learning and support positive contributions to the community.

Research and Evaluation

Ongoing, data-based research and evaluation contribute to achieving student learning outcomes and the assurance that all operations support the vision, mission and values of the college.

Student Learning Outcomes

Student success results from identifying, assessing and improving student learning outcomes and allocating resources that support effective, innovative, and flexible learning opportunities.

Sustainability

Recognizing its leadership role in the stewardship of natural resources, ARC is committed to reducing its negative impact on the environment.

Technology

Responsible and effective use of technology supports the college's mission and helps students develop the skills necessary for being successful in the contemporary environment.

Approved by President David Viar and PCC 10/1/12

Approved by LRCCD Board of Trustees 10/24/12

Institutional Student Learning Outcomes

Upon achievement of his or her intended educational goal (degree, certificate, or set of courses) at American River College, a student will be able to:

* Demonstrate and employ marketable skills and personal qualities for professional growth and career advancement.

- * Demonstrate skills and behaviors which contribute to open and respectful communication of diverse ideas and beliefs.
- * Utilize a variety of methods to communicate effectively.
- * Employ strategies to work cooperatively and effectively with others.
- * Locate and critically evaluate information from a variety of sources, including those accessed through technology, to create informed responses to issues, problems, and challenges.
- * Recognize the responsibility to behave as an ethical citizen, contributing personal knowledge, resources, and skills for the benefit of the local and larger communities.
- * For students earning degrees, demonstrate an understanding of the basic content and methodology for the major areas of knowledge, including the arts and humanities, quantitative reasoning, the natural sciences, and the social sciences.

Approved November 2013

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