

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

TVCC exists for the following purposes:

- to prepare students for transfer to upper-level institutions by offering a core curriculum of freshman and sophomore courses in the arts and sciences;
- to prepare students for employment through completion of academic and workforce programs leading to an Associate of Arts Degree, an Associate of Applied Science Degree, or a Certificate of Completion;
- to help disadvantaged students develop educational skills leading to academic success;
- to provide continuing adult education programs for occupational or cultural enrichment;
- to provide workforce education programs leading directly to employment in semi-skilled and skilled occupations;
- to support and promote workforce development programs designed to meet local and statewide needs;
- to provide a comprehensive student development services program, including counseling and guidance; and
- to provide literacy and other basic skills programs for adults.

Faculty Commitment to Student Learning

Trinity Valley Community College is a learning-centered community college focused on enhancing student learning. There are two essential questions that all members of the TVCC community are asked to reflect upon.

1. How does what I am doing contribute to learning?
2. How do we know?

At the heart of these two questions lies a fundamental belief that inquiry into the learning process, when shared with the broader organization, can lead to the college learning about learning. By placing learning at the center of everything we do, we make a commitment to engage in this type of reflection. Our commitment should lead to increased institutional knowledge of how our students learn, what types of learning environments support the greatest learning, and what types of additional accommodations are necessary to enhance learning.

The above questions are predicated upon the following assumptions:

Learner success is at the center of all College endeavors.

Students are responsible for their learning *and* quality teaching is expected, recognized, and rewarded. TVCC is dedicated to the highest quality education that develops learners for success in life and work. The needs of learners, not the preferences of the institution, guide priorities for academic planning, policies, and programs.

Assessment of all functions is necessary for improvement and continual renewal.
Systematically gathered information challenges antidotes, questions the status quo, and identifies where change is needed to enhance learning. TVCC is committed to accounting for its effectiveness through the use of comprehensive and systematic assessment.

Faculty are expected to engage in a variety of learning support activities such as:

- Maintaining up-to-date knowledge of teaching field(s), adult learning, use of technology, utilization of pedagogies that support best learning practices, and trends in community colleges.
- Participating in curriculum development and evaluation of courses and programs, including general education.
- Establishing intentionality in learning outcomes by stating learning outcomes on course syllabi, Learning Enhancement Annual Plans (LEAPs), and through general education outcomes.
- Facilitating student learning through in-class and out-of-class activities.
- Developing knowledge, skills and abilities of students, while recognizing the needs of diverse learners.
- Holding students to high expectations – academic and behavioral - in the classroom, in extracurricular activities, and in the community.
- Assessing student learning on a regular basis, using multiple measures and strategies that address student learning styles and needs.
- Using the results of assessment to improve teaching and learning.
- Providing feedback on ways to improve instructional/institutional practices.
- Participating in College committees and related college governance activities.
- Contributing to TVCC's collaborative work environment.

To learn more about TVCC's learning-centered initiatives, please visit the website at:
<http://www.tvcc.edu/LearningInitiative/commitment.htm>