

G R E A T E R
E X P E C T A T I O N S
A New Vision for Learning as a Nation Goes to College

The Learning Students Need for the Twenty-First Century

The Greater Expectations National Panel recommends that college graduates be prepared to continue learning throughout their lives, to adapt to new environments, and to integrate knowledge from various sources.

To thrive in a complex, interdependent, diverse, and constantly changing world, these **INTENTIONAL LEARNERS** must be:

EMPOWERED through the mastery of intellectual and practical skills
INFORMED by knowledge and forms of inquiry basic to many fields
RESPONSIBLE for their personal actions and for civic values.

The intellectual and practical skills that students need are extensive, sophisticated, and expanding with the explosion of new technologies. **EMPOWERED LEARNERS** excel at:

- effectively communicating orally, visually, in writing, and in a second language
- understanding and employing quantitative and qualitative analysis to solve problems
- interpreting and evaluating information from a variety of sources
- understanding and working within complex systems and with diverse groups
- demonstrating intellectual agility and the ability to manage change
- transforming information into knowledge and knowledge into judgment and action.

While intellectual and practical skills are essential, so is a comprehensive knowledge of the world students inherit, as human beings and as citizens. **INFORMED LEARNERS** understand well:

- the human imagination, expression, and the products of many cultures
- the interrelations within and among global and cross-cultural communities
- means of modeling the natural, social, and technical worlds
- the values and histories underlying U.S. democracy.

The integrity of a democratic society depends on citizens' sense of social responsibility and ethical judgment. **RESPONSIBLE LEARNERS** manifest competency in and commitment to:

- intellectual honesty
- responsibility for society's moral health and for social justice
- active participation as a citizen of a diverse democracy
- discernment of the ethical consequences of decisions and actions
- deep understanding of one's self and respect for the complex identities of others, their histories, and their cultures.

