Upon completion of University Core A, Radford University students will have achieved competency in four key concept areas: written communications, oral communication, critical thinking, and technology/information literacy. Updated 2013.

Goal 1
Radford University students will demonstrate competency in critical reading, standard written English, audience-specific writing, clear and effective prose, and other elements of composition.

Radford University students will be able to:

a. Effectively synthesize and integrate arguments and information.
b. Construct a coherent, cohesive essay with a clear sense of purpose.
c. Show control over syntax, grammar, punctuation, and spelling to communicate in a style that is clear and appropriate for the purpose and audience of the assignment.

Goal 2
Radford University students will be able to communicate orally in clear and coherent language appropriate to purpose, occasion, and audience.

Radford University students will be able to:

a. Use an effective organizational pattern in an oral presentation.
b. Use effective delivery techniques and language in an oral presentation.
c. Work effectively in a team environment.

Goal 3
Radford University students will learn to distinguish knowledge from opinion, challenge ideas, and develop reasonable strategies for belief formation.

Radford University students will be able to:

a. Effectively apply the processes of logical reasoning in evaluating claims or arguments.
b. Construct a well-reasoned argument with appropriate supporting evidence.
c. Effectively apply ethical concerns and principles in constructing a reasoned argument about an ethical issue.

Goal 4
Radford University students will be able to acquire, analyze, and synthesize digital and print information and explain how digital information is organized and communicated.

Radford University students will be able to:

a. Appropriately use a documentation style to cite other people's work.
b. Utilize basic research techniques to locate information.
c. Critically evaluate sources using appropriate criteria.

Upon completion of University Core B, Radford University students will have achieved competency in five key concept areas: mathematical sciences, natural sciences, humanities, fine arts, and social/behavioral sciences. Updated 2014.

Goal 5

Radford University students will be able to use the tools of mathematics and quantitative reasoning to conceptualize and solve problems.

Radford University students will be able to:

a. Interpret relationships among numeric, symbolic, and graphical information as applied to the real world;
b. Solve problems using numeric, symbolic, and graphical information;

Goal 6

Radford University students will understand the methodologies of scientific inquiry, think critically about scientific problems, and apply principles of a scientific discipline to solve problems in the natural/physical world.

Radford University students will:

a. Distinguish between findings that are based upon empirical data and those that are not;
b. Apply scientific principles within the context of a specific scientific discipline to solve real world problems.

Goal 7

Radford University students will understand the importance of the search for answers to humankind's most fundamental and profound questions and the ways in which these questions have been examined.

Radford University students will be able to:

a. Identify principles, concepts, or developments crucial to inquiry in a humanities discipline.
b. Recognize how a method of inquiry in the humanities can be applied to a disciplinary question.

Goal 8

Radford University students will identify and evaluate ways in which the visual and performing arts reflect and communicate aspects of the human experience.
Radford University students will:

a. Evaluate works of art in terms of the medium's distinctive language and terminology;
b. Identify the relationship between works of art and specific historical, cultural, and social contexts.

Goal 9

Radford University students will understand how individual, social, or cultural factors influence human behavior and shape reciprocal relationships between people and society.

Radford University students will be able to:

a. Recognize social and behavioral science concepts;
b. Recognize the relationship between individual and socio-cultural factors that affect behaviors.

Upon completion of College Core A, Radford University students will have achieved competency in two key concept areas: U.S. Perspectives and Global Perspectives.

Goal 10

Radford University students will understand how social and cultural (for example, political, historical, economic, environmental, religious, or geographic) forces shape the American experience.

Radford University students will be able to:

a. Identify diverse influences that have shaped the American experience; and
b. Apply course material to a relevant issue in the United States.

Goal 11

Radford University students will understand how social and cultural (for example, political, historical, economic, environmental, religious, or geographic) forces shape experiences in the global setting.

Radford University students will be able to:

a. Identify how different perspectives shape human life around the world.
b. Recognize social and cultural forces that affect relationships between cultures in the world.

Upon completion of College Core B, Radford University students will have a stronger foundation in three key areas: mathematical sciences or natural sciences; humanities, fine arts, or foreign languages; and
social/behavioral sciences or health and wellness. As part of this area, students may take a course in a foreign language or health and wellness with learning outcomes specified below.

If a foreign language is chosen to satisfy core curriculum requirements, Radford University students will achieve a degree of competence in a foreign language and culture.

Radford University students will be able to:

a. demonstrate language skills appropriate to the level of study
b. analyze similarities and differences between their own and the target cultures
c. explain contemporary international issues from the perspectives of their own and the target cultures

If a health and wellness course is chosen to satisfy core curriculum requirements, Radford University students will understand the implications of health and lifestyle choices for themselves and society.

Radford University students will be able to:

a. identify health-related choices that promote personal well being and enhance the overall quality of life
b. analyze the relations among factors such as nutrition, stress, leisure, and health related fitness activities as they influence personal wellness
c. explain how personal health and lifestyle choices affect society at large
d. explain how social and cultural factors affect personal health and lifestyle choices