

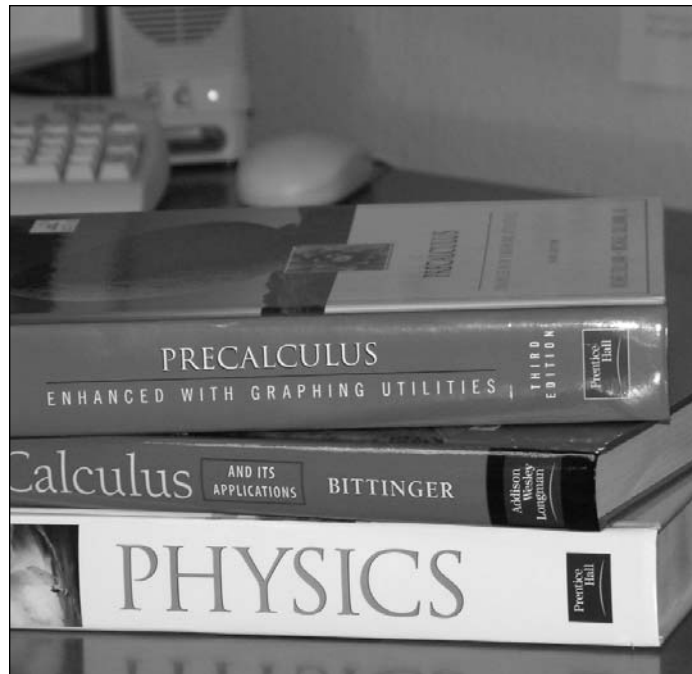


LEARNING COLLEGE OF CHOICE



Butler
Community College

Pure Learning Power



INTRODUCTION

Butler has embarked on a journey, which places Learning at the heart of our institution. This is the journey of the Learning College, an institution driven by quality and dedicated to engaging its students in learning experiences, which expands their minds and spirit. As a Learning College, we focus not on what instructors do, but on what our students accomplish.

When students and stakeholders choose Butler, we choose them. We are dedicated to their success. We are driven by the desire to bring out the best in those we serve. When they succeed, so do we. We are a Learning College. Learning is at the heart of what we do.

MISSION

Butler Community College exists to develop responsible, involved lifelong learners and to contribute to the vitality of the communities it serves.

BUTLER LEARNING COLLEGE PRINCIPLES

The Butler Learning College Principles described below combine the college's timeless institutional values, guiding principles, original Learning College outcomes, and the 10 quality principles of high performance organizations from the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) into a single set of aligned principles. These principles describe how faculty and staff at Butler function in order for Butler to serve as the Learning College of Choice for the region.

As a dynamic, responsible Learning College, Butler faculty, staff and administration:

FOCUS ON LEARNING

We seek student and stakeholder feedback and use that feedback to shape programs and services that are directly related to their learning needs. We rely upon documented evidence to determine that improved and expanded learning takes place.

ASSUME PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

We assume responsibility and ownership in helping to achieve and maintain performance standards that contribute to the college's mission and key performance indicators.

ADVANCE ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT IN LEARNING

We act as learning facilitators, engaging students and co-workers in a variety of learning experiences inside and outside the classroom setting.

PROVIDE MULTIPLE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

We sustain safe, functional and inviting learning environments to offer a variety of programming and services options that meet the learning needs of students and other stakeholders.

Butler prepares students to be principled, productive individuals who are responsible, involved lifelong learners.

To accomplish this goal Butler has established a Learning PACT for the skills learners acquire during their career.

The Butler Learning PACT is integrated throughout Butler's academic and vocational programs in:

- course work
- extra-curricular activities
- all other learning opportunities

VALUE OUR HUMAN RESOURCES

Through our active engagement in systematic institutional and personal growth and development, we foster a climate of excellence in which all employees are empowered to contribute to the advancement of the college's mission, vision and learning college principles.

MAKE DECISIONS BASED ON FACTS

We use the best available integrated data, information and performance measures to facilitate student learning, to guide our continuous improvement efforts at the department, division and college-wide levels, and to guide our daily planning and decision-making.

PLAN STRATEGICALLY FOR THE FUTURE

We plan with the future in mind, using a strategic planning model that allocates limited resources for optimum effectiveness, productivity and efficiency in meeting student and other stakeholder needs.

RESPOND WITH AGILITY

We effectively respond to opportunities, changes and threats in our environment, continually seeking new or adapted ways to respond to the learning needs of our students and other stakeholders.

LINK WITH EXTERNAL COMMUNITIES

We foster mission-related linkages and partnerships to address student and stakeholder needs and to contribute to the economic and social well-being of our region.

MODEL OUR PRINCIPLES AND TIMELESS VALUES

Administration inspires faculty, staff and students also to model the Learning College Principles and the college's timeless institutional values of Quality, Integrity, Service and Caring.

BUTLER'S LEARNING PACT WITH STUDENTS

The Learning PACT skills are vital for any adult to function successfully in the ever-changing world of the 21st century. A productive future in the global marketplace is dependent upon development of these skills.

The Butler Learning PACT consists of:

- P = Personal Development Skills
- A = Analytical Thinking Skills
- C = Communication Skills
- T = Technological Skills

STUDENTS' WORK SHALL DEMONSTRATE:

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT SKILLS

Self-Concept

Engage in self-evaluation in regard to self-image, values, attitudes, interests, goals, strengths and weaknesses.

Health Management

Actively, practically apply awareness of the components of health (emotional, physical, social and intellectual) through the development of a plan of health-enhancing behaviors.

Time Management

Demonstrate behaviors that are effective in managing one's time.

Coping with Change

Enhance the ability to accept and deal effectively with change.

Effective Relationships

Demonstrate an awareness of the skills and behaviors associated with the achievement of satisfactory relationships on an individual, community and societal level.

Teamwork

Apply knowledge of the dynamics of group interaction, as well as the impact of individual behavior on groups.

Valuing Diversity

Demonstrate an appreciation for the value in differences among people.

Effective Citizenship

Apply an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of participation in a democracy.

Ethical Conduct

Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of accepting responsibility for one's actions and an ability to make ethical decisions related to personal, family and community issues.

Leadership

Use the principles of skillful leadership.

ANALYTICAL THINKING SKILLS

Problem Solving

Identify and define problems, gather information and determine its relevancy, develop workable solutions, select and communicate the best solution.

Critical Thinking

Identify and define a task, gather information, process the information according to established models, generate and communicate an appropriate response.

Historical Interpretation

Interpret human behavior and events in the historical context of the past, present and future.

Aesthetic Response

Articulate an informed personal response to works of art.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Reading

Read to examine, question and interpret.

Writing

Create written communications appropriate to the situation which express ideas and convey needs.

Listening

Accurately interpret, evaluate and respond to any aural communication.

Speaking

Speak effectively in interpersonal, small group, and public settings, both formally and informally.

Nonverbal Communication

Employ knowledge of the dynamics and impact of nonverbal variables on communication.

TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS

Computer Literacy

Use computers to create, file, retrieve and modify text documents.

Internet Use

Navigate the Internet to find and evaluate required information, download or copy fields and search databases effectively.

Field-Related Technology

Use specific technological skills related to specific fields and vocational tasks.

LEARNING COLLEGE

As a Learning College, Butler Community College strives to meet the lifelong-learning needs of anyone, anytime, anywhere, while fulfilling its financial, legal and social accountability to local taxpayers, students and the state of Kansas through:

- Associate degree programs
- Courses which are equivalent to those of four-year college or university programs
- Occupational/technical training, certificates and associate degree programs for entry into an occupational specialty, updating job skills, advancing in a specialty, or retraining
- Courses and instruction in cultural, civic, practical skills and vocational areas
- Instruction in basic and developmental skills
- Customized training, and technical and consulting services to assist business and industry
- Facilities, services and resources to community groups, educational institutions, businesses, industries and other agencies
- Student support services and extracurricular student activities
- Instructional support services
- Individualized programs and services for students with varying ranges of academic abilities
- Collaborative opportunities and activities which contribute to economic and community development

"VOICES WITH VISION"

Butler's Voices with Vision Strategic Plan is a reflection of how we will fulfill our commitment to become this Learning College of Choice.

STRATEGIC VISION

Butler will be the Learning College of Choice for the region. We will engage our students and other stakeholders in exceptional instructional programs and services directly related to their needs. Our commitment to the Academic Quality Improvement Program will be the means to achieve our Learning College outcomes, as evidenced by student and stakeholder satisfaction and preparedness for success.

TIMELESS INSTITUTIONAL VALUES

- **Quality**
- **Integrity**
- **Service**
- **Caring**

LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

The assessment of student learning begins with a commitment to our vision and mission statements and works through the Learning PACT. The Butler Learning PACT lists skills critical to the 21st century workplace used in the college's institution-wide assessment of student achievement of General Education learning outcomes. Learning is a complex, integrated and ongoing process. And, our faculty, staff and administration participate in an ongoing learning assessment program to continually improve teaching and learning.

The assessment of the general education components of a student's coursework is handled through the use of both direct and indirect indicators. Individual departments also conduct learning outcomes assessment on an annual basis. Learning assessment leads to improvement in student learning in that it affects the decisions of the entire educational community.

Butler's Learning PACT Council is developing a program of individualized learning assessment based on the Learning PACT skills. The achievement of these learning outcomes will be documented as the student progresses through her/his college experiences. The Butler Learning PACT Instructional Committee is currently piloting this type of individualized assessment in a variety of courses taken from across the college's curriculum.

The complete Butler learning assessment program is available for perusal in the Office of Assessment (pspeary@butlercc.edu) and the Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs (lellis@butlercc.edu).