

# The Higher Learning Commission Action Project Directory

## Illinois Central College

Project Details		
<b>Title</b>	Operationalizing the New General Education Goals	<b>Status</b> ACTIVE
<b>Category</b>	1-Helping Students Learn	<b>Updated</b>
<b>Timeline</b>		<b>Reviewed</b>
	<b>Planned Project Kickoff</b> 01-10-2011	<b>Created</b> 10-27-2011
	<b>Target Completion</b> 01-10-2012	<b>Version</b> 1

### 1: Project Goal

**A:** This project's goal is to create a common set of definitions for our new general education goals to be used campus-wide for general education assessment purposes. This project will be a faculty-led process via the General Education Committee and the Outcomes Assessment Committee at the College.

### 2: Reasons For Project

**A:** This project is the next phase in preparing our seven new general education goals (these goals were established during an action project that was just completed) for assessment purposes. The operational definitions will allow faculty to assess the general education goals at the classroom and program level with a common understanding of each goal.

### 3: Organizational Areas Affected

**A:** Eight academic departments (managing assessment of the general education goals), Curriculum Committee (reviewing updated curriculum), Faculty (assessing goals and adjusting curriculum), Instructional Services (implementing syllabi and program revisions), General Education Committee (managing the operational definitions task forces) and Outcomes Assessment Committee (overseers of the college's assessment plan). A representative sample of faculty from throughout the academic departments along with academic administrators and student services administrators comprise those most affected by this action project.

### 4: Key Organizational Process(es)

**A:** The key organizational process to be changed/improved is the faculty-driven assessment process at the college. The common definitions of the new general education goals will help drive assessment throughout the academic units of Illinois Central College.

### 5: Project Time Frame Rationale

**A:** Building community and laying a solid awareness of general education among faculty in a faculty-driven process takes time. Faculty discussions, roundtable discussions, academic department meetings, and committee and subcommittee meetings, all held in the course of an academic year, are driving the sense of community that is needed for operationalizing and implementing the new general education goals at the College. In addition, faculty are reviewing and updating all active syllabi at the College. All active syllabi must have the new general education goals integrated by the first part of April 2012 for implementation in fall 2012.

### 6: Project Success Monitoring

**A:** The monitoring process will include feedback from academic sub-committee meetings. This monitoring process will keep the voice of the faculty at the forefront of the project. The voice of faculty will be relayed through the general education committee, which is responsible for owning the project, creating the timeline, and making a recommendation to the Vice president for Academic Affairs (VPAA) regarding the operational definitions of the new general education goals at the College.

### 7: Project Outcome Measures

**A:** At the end of the project the faculty will have developed operational definitions for the new general education goals. These operational definitions will then be presented to the general education committee for approval. The overall outcome measure/indicator is acceptance of the operational definitions by the VPAA.