

College Purposes & Goals

Hamilton College is committed to the intellectual and personal development of students. We seek to nourish a love of learning, a creative spirit, and an informed and responsible engagement with an ever-changing world. To promote these qualities, the College challenges all of its students to work with their advisors to devise an educational program that fosters:

Intellectual Curiosity and Flexibility — examining facts, phenomena and issues in depth, and from a variety of perspectives, and having the courage to revise beliefs and outlooks in light of new evidence.

Analytic Discernment — analyzing information, patterns, connections, arguments, ideas, and views quantitatively and symbolically.

Aesthetic Discernment — evaluating quality and value in a variety of artistic and other intellectual domains.

Disciplinary Practice — engaging in the focused and sustained practice of disciplinary techniques and methodologies in order to acquire mastery of a specific ability or craft.

Creativity — imagining and developing original ideas, approaches, works and interpretations, and solving problems resourcefully.

Communication and Expression — expressing oneself with clarity and eloquence, in both traditional and contemporary media, through writing and speaking, and through visual, aural, gestural and other modalities.

Understanding of Cultural Diversity — critically engaging with multiple cultural traditions and perspectives, and with interpersonal situations that enhance understanding of different identities and foster the ability to work and live productively and harmoniously with others.

Ethical, Informed and Engaged Citizenship — developing an awareness of the challenges and responsibilities of local, national and global citizenship, and the ability to meet such challenges and fulfill such responsibilities by exercising sound and informed judgment in accordance with just principles.

Planning Worksheet for College's Purposes & Goals

Purpose/Goal	Activities that address the Purpose/Goal	Plans (including timeframe) for meeting Purpose/Goal
Intellectual Curiosity and Flexibility		
Analytic Discernment		
Aesthetic Discernment		
Disciplinary Practice		
Creativity		
Communication and Expression		
Understanding Cultural Diversity		
Ethical, Informed and Engaged Citizenship		