



**A DRAFT RATIONALE FOR
GENERAL EDUCATION AT
OREGON TECH**

**General Education Review Task Force
Faculty-Administrator Meeting
Tuesday March 11, 2014**

GIVEN

- our polytechnic mission of applying theory to practice in the allied health, engineering, management and applied science fields
- our diverse student body composed of traditional and non-traditional, first-year and transfer, first-generation, low-income and legacy students
- our history of both broad and deep professional preparation
- our established focus on communication
- our teaching-focused faculty
- our innovative programs and general electives
- our culture of assessment
- the excellent placement rates of our graduates
- the rapidly changing nature of technology and our world



OREGON TECH WILL PROVIDE A GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM THAT PROVIDES STUDENTS WITH THE FOUNDATIONAL ABILITY TO

- write clearly and persuasively
- practice ethical decision making
- critically evaluate information
- recognize bias
- use data to evaluate claims
- solve a wide variety of problems
- make connections between diverse fields of study
- read and understand a variety of topics in a variety of media
- be self-critical
- use the scientific method



BY PROVIDING A GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM THAT

- is a trademark of our institution as much as our degree programs
- can be flexibly applied to, may be tailored for, and is integrated into every degree program offered by the institution
- provides a broad education in areas outside of the major allowing for personal growth and exploration
- prepares active and educated citizens for life in general as well as professional career
- is integrated with major programs with general education-major program alignment supported by the administration and faculty policy
- provides opportunities for interdisciplinary courses and co-teaching
- allows students the freedom to choose from a wide variety of elective courses
- includes lower-division coursework that can be easily transferred as a substitution for core courses unique to Oregon Tech
- includes upper-division coursework that is required even for transfer students
- includes courses not limited to single institutional student learning outcomes
- incorporates high-impact practices supported by strong faculty professional development structures

