

PURPOSE

You are receiving this handout because you are teaching one or more courses that fulfill a general education requirement at UNO. Students do not always engage fully in this part of the curriculum and may misunderstand the value and purpose of general education. Recent evidence to support this claim includes a 2016 survey that showed first-year students at UNO reported lower engagement indicator scores than their Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan University (CUMU) peers for how their coursework emphasized higher order learning, an important aim of general education. Specifically, UNO first-year students provided lower ratings than our CUMU peers for how their coursework emphasized

- 1. Applying facts, theories, or methods to practical problems or new situations
- 2. Analyzing an idea, experience, or line of reasoning
- 3. Evaluating a point of view, decision, or information source
- 4. Forming a new idea or understanding from various pieces of information

These findings indicate a need to ~~develop a new curriculum for first-year students that emphasizes higher order learning~~



THE VALUE OF GENERAL EDUCATION

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