



Riverland's **Academic Discipline (Unit-Level) Goals and Student Competencies** as Classroom-Level Student Learning Outcomes

MnTC Goal # 1: Communication – Riverland graduates utilize the English language effectively and read, write, speak, and listen critically.

Student Competencies: Graduates will be able to...

- a. understand/demonstrate the writing and speaking processes through invention, organization, drafting, revision, editing and presentation.
- b. participate effectively in groups with emphasis on listening, critical and reflective thinking, and responding.
- c. locate, evaluate, and synthesize in a responsible manner material from diverse sources and points of view.
- d. select appropriate communication choices for specific audiences.
- e. construct logical and coherent arguments.
- f. use authority, point-of-view, and individual voice and style in their writing and speaking.
- g. employ syntax and usage appropriate to academic disciplines and the professional world.

MnTC Goal # 3: Natural Sciences – Riverland graduates understand natural science principles and methods of scientific inquiry.

Student Competencies: Graduates will be able to...

- a. demonstrate understanding of scientific theories
- b. formulate and test hypotheses by performing laboratory, simulation, or field experiments in at least two of the natural science disciplines. One of these experimental components should develop, in greater depth, students, laboratory experience in the collection of data, its statistical and graphical analysis, and an appreciation of its sources of error and uncertainty.
- c. communicate their experimental findings, analyses, and interpretations both orally and in writing.
- d. evaluate societal issues from a natural science perspective, ask questions about the evidence presented, and make informed judgments about science-related topics and policies.

MnTC Goal # 4: Mathematical/Logical Reasoning – Riverland graduates know mathematical and logical modes of thinking.

Student Competencies: Graduates will be able to...

- a. illustrate historical and contemporary applications of mathematical/logical systems.
- b. clearly express mathematical/logical ideas in writing.
- c. explain what constitutes a valid mathematical/logical argument (proof).
- d. apply higher-order problem-solving and/or modeling strategies.

MnTC Goal #5 : History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences – Riverland graduates know how historians and social and behavioral scientists discover, describe, and explain the behaviors and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, events, and ideas.

Student Competencies: Graduates will be able to...

- a. employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
- b. examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
- c. use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
- d. develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

MnTC Goal # 6: The Humanities and Fine Arts – Riverland graduates know human conditions and human cultures, in relation to behavior, ideas, and values expressed in works of human imagination and thought.

Student Competencies: Graduates will be able to...

- a. demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
- b. understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social content.
- c. respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
- d. engage in the creative process or interpretive performance.
- e. articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.