

CREATIVE Connections: Breaking Barriers Across Disciplines

FSW's 2022 QEP is the implementation of a required transdisciplinary general education capstone course, IDS 2891: CREATIVE Capstone, for the Associate in Arts program beginning with students entering in catalog year 2022-23. The CREATIVE Capstone course fosters transdisciplinary work through reading, writing, speaking, and visual communication, as well as helps students make connections between their general education courses and the problems they hope to solve, and the questions they hope to address, in their majors and careers through critically engaged reading and the production of projects that require writing, public speaking, and visual communication. The QEP complements and strengthens the college's mission by implementing innovative teaching frameworks to inspire learning; preparing a diverse student population for participation in a global community by taking a transdisciplinary approach to explore global problems and questions of interest; and helping graduates to be intellectual leaders in their communities by preparing them to adapt and communicate knowledge and skills acquired from different disciplines. The CREATIVE Capstone program at FSW provides students with a structured opportunity to reflect on their general education coursework, apply their learning to new contexts, and consider how flexibility and transdisciplinary approaches are necessary to advance knowledge and solve the problems of the future.

QEP Goals

- Increase access to high impact practices for students in the Associate in Arts program at an open-enrollment institution,
- Increase transparency about academic and systems thinking,
- Provide opportunities for student research,
- Provide a culminating and synthesizing experience for the students' general education coursework,
- Encourage and increase the practice of integrative and applied learning (Hart, 2008),
- Develop students' research knowledge practices and communication skills, and
- Foster broad knowledge of human cultures and the natural world (Hart, 2008).

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will design a transdisciplinary research project by developing questions and concepts towards a purpose, audience, and context.
- Students will prepare a transdisciplinary research project by choosing and relating materials, methods, and perspectives in context.
- Students will create a transdisciplinary research project by interpreting theories, methods, information, and content.
- Students will communicate the purpose and context of their transdisciplinary research project through synthesis and explanation of knowledge, skills, and information.
- Students will reflect upon and evaluate diverse experiences, impacts, perspectives, knowledge, and skills to address issues or problems.

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