

## **Bradley University Assessment of Core Competencies**

In order to develop an assessment plan aimed at evaluating core competencies at the institutional level, the Assessment Academy team reviewed three documents:

- Bradley's mission statement
- Bradley's General Education Program description
- The *Bradley Core Experience*, a white paper developed through the Bradley University Campuswide Conversation Series

These documents are available in their entirety elsewhere as noted. Following our list of core competencies, we present those elements of the sources documents that most succinctly capture Bradley's core competencies.

### **Bradley University's Core Competencies**

1. *Effective Communication*  
written, oral, graphical
2. *Multiple Ways of Thinking*  
critical, analytical, innovative, theoretical, scientific, quantitative, historical, interdisciplinary, aesthetic
3. *Attributes of a Productive and Ethical Citizen*  
cultural and social understandings, value of diversity, leadership, collaboration, service, life-long learning

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### **Bradley University Mission Statement**

<http://www.bradley.edu/about/mission.shtml>

Bradley University is committed to nurturing the multifaceted development of students to enable them to become leaders, innovators, and productive members of society. Our graduates are prepared for life and professions in a changing world and they are able to cross academic, geographic, and cultural boundaries...

Students learn teamwork and leadership through group projects and collaborate with faculty on research and creative production...

### **Bradley University's General Education Program**

<http://www.bradley.edu/academics/gened/gened-1.html>

Bradley University's General Education Program is based upon the principles of "liberal education" expressed in the following fundamental assumptions:

- A liberal education provides all students with the intellectual tools necessary

- to explore the best that civilization has produced.
- A liberal education provides the means for all students to exercise control over their lives through thoughtful responses to their political, social, cultural, technological and natural environment.
  - A liberal education emphasizes critical, historical, theoretical, scientific, and aesthetic approaches to knowledge.
  - A liberal education enhances the quality of life and fosters an appreciation of learning as a foundation for continuing inquiry.
  - The purpose of a liberal education is to develop students, regardless of academic major or professional aspiration, who are able to understand and participate in society as responsible human beings.

***The Bradley Core Experience: A Synthesis from the Bradley University Campus-wide Conversation Series***

<http://www.bradley.edu/buccs/>

Attributes we would like our graduates to exhibit:

Knowledge and Practice: Expectation that our students will obtain better than average basic knowledge, content knowledge and competency in their respective disciplines; also that they will acquire critical thinking skills, creative thinking skills, the ability to apply technologies, communication skills (oral, written, visual and other languages), knowledge of mathematics, and ethical thinking and practices.

Citizenship: Expectation that our students will obtain the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to engage effectively in collaborative work, that they will actively participate in their communities, and that they will understand and act upon their responsibilities as global citizens.

Character and Professional Development: Expectation that our students will construct a personal and professional identity that includes leadership skills, ethics, respect, deliberateness, balance, time management, as well as the humility and the desire to engage in lifelong learning.