

3.5.1 The institution identifies college-level general education competencies and the extent to which students have attained them. **(General education competencies)**

Compliance Partial Compliance Non-Compliance

Narrative:

The Institution identifies college-level general education competencies

Chattahoochee Valley Community College (CVCC) identified five general education competencies to be evaluated each year to ensure students are mastering basic skills. The general education competencies or associate degree outcomes were approved by Curriculum Committee [March 29, 2012](#). The competencies listed in the [College Catalog and Student Handbook](#), are as follows:

1. The student will **write** sentences and paragraphs in Standard English that are sequential, logical and effectively organized.
2. The student will demonstrate **oral communication** competencies using unity of thought and logical arrangement of ideas.
3. The student will perform **mathematical computations and apply mathematical principles** and methodologies to be successful in their specific degree program.
4. The student will demonstrate knowledge of **basic computer skills** through the use of current computer technology and applications to develop computer literacy for academic settings and lifelong learning.
5. The student will **demonstrate scientific literacy** through factual knowledge, understanding theoretical concepts and fundamental principles in the natural sciences and the application of scientific principles and methodologies to solve scientific problems.

Expected outcomes or student learning outcomes in General Education core courses ([English 102](#), [Computer Information Systems 146](#)) were identified by college faculty and based on course descriptions in the [ACCS Course Directories](#) to ensure competencies are college level. Faculty within each discipline identified courses where students have the greatest opportunity to demonstrate the identified general education competencies for the AS, AA, and AAS degrees. Further evidence of the assessment of these outcomes and the use of results for improvement can be found in [CS3.3.1.1](#).

Extent to which students have attained specified college-level general education competencies

General Education competencies are assessed annually through the Institutional Effectiveness process. The evaluation process includes courses from full-time and part-time faculty and must include courses taught in all formats (traditional, hybrid, online) as well.

Expected Outcomes	Course/Courses where competencies are assessed
Expected Outcome 1 Write	ENG 101, ENG 102
Expected Outcome 2 Oral Communication	SPH 107,
Expected Outcome 3 Math	MTH 100, MTH 112
Expected Outcome 4 Computer Skills	CIS 146
Expected Outcome 5 Science	BIO 103, CHM111, PHS111

The College's online unit planning system contains [Unit Plans](#) for each of the five general education competencies. The assessment of the identified expected outcomes and use of assessment results to make improvements form the basis for the next academic year's action plans. Actions taken during the year are noted as well in each Unit Plan.

Expected Outcomes

Expected Outcome 1 - The student will write sentences and paragraphs in Standard English that are sequential, logical, and effectively organized is assessed in English 101, English Composition I, and English 102, English Composition II, through the use of a departmentally developed course rubric that evaluates student performance and ability in sentence construction, critical thinking, and diction. The rubrics for both [English 101](#) and [English 102](#) were designed by the full time faculty members of the department. Department "[triangulation](#)" meetings, designed to develop consistency in grading, are held each semester.

Expected Outcome 2 - The student will demonstrate oral communication competencies using unity of thought and logical arrangement of ideas is assessed in Speech 107 through the use of a departmentally developed [course rubric](#) that evaluates student performance in public speaking by content, organization, conventions, and style.

Expected Outcome 3 - The student will perform mathematical computation and apply mathematical principles and methodologies to be successful in their degree program is assessed in Math 100, Intermediate College Algebra, and Math 112, Precalculus Algebra, by, 1) The ability to demonstrate factual knowledge of equations; 2) The ability to analyze equations through appropriate solution methods; and 3) The ability to evaluate equations by applying correct mathematical principals and methodologies. These competencies and the requirements

necessary to complete those competencies were developed by the full-time mathematics department faculty at CVCC. Students taking a comprehensive final ([Math 100](#), [Math 112](#)) will demonstrate mastery of all three goals by correctly answering two or the three questions on each of the three areas.

Expected Outcome 4 - The student will demonstrate knowledge of basic computer competencies through the use of hardware, software, and/or programming is assessed in Computer Information Systems 146 through four individual [case studies](#) in Microsoft Office applications: Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint. The case studies were developed by the full time faculty in the CIS division and are used by both full time and adjunct faculty members for the CIS146 course. All students completing a two year degree at CVCC are required to take the course in order to graduate.

Expected Outcome 5 - The student will demonstrate scientific literacy in Biology 103, Chemistry 111, and Physical Science 111 by being able to 1) Demonstrate factual knowledge on Biological (living organisms and biological systems)/ Physical Science/ Chemical functions; 2) Demonstrate theoretical concepts and fundamental principles in the biological/physical/chemical sciences, including use of the scientific method where appropriate; and 3) Apply biological/physical science/chemistry principles and methodology to solving biology/physical science/chemistry-based problems. These competencies and the requirements necessary to complete those competencies were developed by the full-time science department faculty at CVCC. In all three courses, the faculty determined students taking a comprehensive final exam ([Biology 103](#), [Chemistry 111](#)) will demonstrate mastery of all three goals by correctly answering test questions on each of the three goal areas.

The chart below details the success rates of the expected outcomes for three years.

Expected Outcomes	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 Fall
Expected Outcome 1 – Writing, failing papers with major errors	Eng 101 – 67% Eng 102 – 60%	Eng 101 - 68% Eng 102 - 60%	ENG 101 -62% ENG 102 -41%
Expected Outcomes 2 – Speech	SPH107 – 56%	SPH - 60%	SPH 107 – 83%
Expected Outcome 3 – Math	MTH100 -38% MTH112 -58%	MTH 100 – 22% MTH 112 - 38%	MTH 100 - 45% MTH 112 – 37%
Expected Outcome 4 – Computer	CIS146 – 79%	CIS146 – 83%	CIS146 – 93%
Expected Outcome 5 - Science	CHM111 – 56% PHS111 – 78% BIO103 – 40%	CHM111 – 71% PHS111 – 61% BIO103 – 44%	CHM111 – 72% PHS111 – not available BIO103 – 46%

Student achievement of the competencies is also assessed through transfer reports from four-year institutions. The Alabama College System [College Accountability Performance Profile](#)

(CAPP) Spring 2010 published by the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education provided GPA information from universities with ten or more students transferring from the College after completing 60 or more hours. According to this report, an average of 65 percent of CVCC transfer students earned a 3.0 or better GPA after attempting 30 or more semester hours at a state university. This report is no longer available. Information provided by senior colleges and universities is also reviewed to see how CVCC transfer students are performing. A recent report from [Auburn University](#) indicates CVCC students (18) compare equally with all transfers to Auburn for Fall 2011 with a GPA of 2.64 and performing better than all transfers Spring 2012 with a GPA of 2.79 compared to all transfer with a 2.67.

Another measure of General Education Competencies is students' perception of their education/preparation using the [Graduating Student Survey](#) and the [Student Satisfaction Survey](#).

Goal: Graduating students will have a favorable rating:	Assessment Measure	Outcome
Degree to which you are prepared for another college	Graduating Student Survey B18	2010 - 83% 2011 - 89% 2012 - 84%
Accomplishing my goals	Student Satisfaction Survey Q 52	2012 - 87% 2013 - 91%
Recommend CVCC to others	Student Satisfaction Survey Q 53	2012 - 84% 2013 - 89%

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

[Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes, March 29, 2012](#)

[College Catalog and Student Handbook, Associate Degree Outcomes – Page 12](#)

[English 102 Syllabus](#)

[Computer Information Systems 146 Syllabus](#)

[Alabama Community College System Course Directory](#)

[General Education Unit Plans, 2012-13](#)

<u>English 101 Grading Standards</u>
<u>English 102 Grading Standards</u>
<u>Triangulation Exercise Results</u>
<u>Speech 107 Rubric</u>
<u>Math 100 Final, FA2012</u>
<u>Math 112 Final, FA2012</u>
<u>Computer Information Systems 146 Case Study Results</u>
<u>Biology 103 Final, FA2012</u>
<u>Chemistry 111 Final, FA2012</u>
<u>College Accountability Performance Profile (CAPP), 2010</u>
<u>Auburn University Transfer Report</u>
<u>Graduating Student Survey, SP2012</u>
<u>Student Satisfaction Survey, SP2013</u>