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| I would like for the Team to focus on the higher-order thinking skills, such as critical, socratic, and/ or evaluative thought processes. It seems as if YSU has centered entirely around makng the 'application' part of learning the end-all be-all. While it is critical that students master application for job placement and career sucess, it is equaly critical that we go further than that. Our students need to be successful in LIFE, thus they need to be able to make decisions, evaluate data, and create the future of our society. |
| Diversity diversity diversity. Also, diversity. I find it incredibly troubling that institutions of higher education around the country are discouraging (and in some states prohibiting) discussions that are considered to be controversial. Ironically, Ohio has a bill that prohibits public schools from teaching 'divisive concepts'. Galileo challenged the status quo with the divisive concept of the planets circling the sun. Darwin challenged creationism with his data on evolution. Harriet Tubman resisted the laws of slavery. It is these divisive concepts, and their discussion/ studies of them, that created the world we live in today. Our University MUST stand up for academic freedom to be able to expose students to ALL rational theory, including and especially those which are considered controversial. Under no circumstances should we limit student thinking to only those notions which are popular, politically motivated, or widespread. One way to ensure that our University is graduating students who are capable of higher-level thought is to expose them to cultures and ideas which are not 'the norm' and are seldom discussed in K-12 school curricula. A plethura of religion, philosophy, arts, languages, gender, and ethnicity curricula are needed to make a well-rounded citizen, and this is why we call college "higher-ed". |
| All YSU students should know how to find relevant, high-quality information through the internet. Knowing how to search a database, evaluating citations and following footnotes are essential in all areas of study. The landscape of publishing information has changed so much, it is imperative that students be able to evaluate sources and find relevant information. |
| Graduates should understand how to search for a job, have strong presentation and interview skills, be able to multitask in a professional setting, and know what resources to use in their field, to find out credible information, if they don't know the information themselves. They also need to understand the job market of their chosen career field and how to navigate it. I have heard graduates or upper classmen say, "You didn't teach me that when I was in your class/school," and the answer is yes it was taught, but you don't understand how to combine what was taught with practical application. They need more "real-world" exposure and practice, earlier on, not once they get to an internship. |
| Students who've passed their basic English courses should be able to write grammatically correct (correct words and punctuation) sentences. Further, they should be able to express themselves coherently -- not only with individual sentences but at least in paragraph form. Even if they're not studying to be professional communicators, at some time they'll have to write professional emails/memos, etc. |
| The mathematical prowess of our general students base is very poor. They are accepted into YSU without the ability to do simple addition/subtraction/multiplication without relying on their phones. When asked to add 28 + 13 they cannot do this in their heads. I always get they comment sorry I'm not very good at math...... |
| The ability to make informed decisions that also align with a personal value system. I also feel it is important for students to have the ability to make transfers across disciplines. Finally, I believe it is important for students to have the opportunity to wake up their creativity - their ability to creatively solve problems or examine ways to use creativity to accomplish a task. |
| Application of critical thinking to problem solving Demonstrate effective communication both written and verbal  Demonstrate a desire for lifelong learning  Ability to think globally and reflect on and respect diverse perspectives |