

The Shepherd University Core Curriculum Framework defines the full set of Competencies to which all Core Curriculum courses must in some way be aligned. The Framework also outlines the specific competencies that must be met for all courses within each Area of the existing Core Curriculum Tiers.

In order to provide the necessary continuity and integrity for institutional assessment (required as part of university accreditation) and to ensure that all specific Competencies for all courses within all Areas within all Tiers are assessed in a regular and timely fashion, a Core Curriculum Assessment Rotation is established within this document. This rotation is aligned with the two-year assessment cycle already in use for campus-wide academic program and administrative unit assessment.

General Assessment Rotation Guidelines

- ***Courses with Three or Fewer Required Competencies:*** All Competencies will be assessed during each assessment cycle.
- ***Courses with More than Three Required Competencies:*** Three Competencies will be assessed in each assessment cycle, following the Core Curriculum Assessment Rotation schedule.

Tier II Competencies – Specific Guidelines

In Tier II areas, certain courses can align with one or more Competencies selected from among Civic Knowledge and Engagement (CK), Global Understanding and Respect (GL), and Multiculturalism and Diversity (MD). The specific selected Competencies each course meets must be clearly identified in the university catalog.

- ***Tier II Humanities and Social Sciences:***
 - Some courses meet **two Competencies:** Lifelong Learning and one of the CK/GL/MD options.
 - Other courses meet **three Competencies:** Lifelong Learning and two of the CK/GL/MD options.
- ***Tier II Arts:***
 - Some courses meet **three Competencies:** Creative Thinking, Lifelong Learning, and one CK/GL/MD option.
 - Other courses meet **four Competencies:** Creative Thinking, Lifelong Learning, and two CK/GL/MD options.

For Tier II Arts courses meeting four Competencies, the CK/GL/MD Competency to be assessed will alternate with each assessment cycle, following a specific order (depending on the specific CK/GL/MD Competencies listed in the catalog):

- *Assessment Cycle 1 (2024-2026): CK; Assessment Cycle 2 (2026-2028): GL; alternating pattern then repeats*
- *Assessment Cycle 1 (2024-2026): CK; Assessment Cycle 2 (2026-2028): MD; alternating pattern then repeats*
- *Assessment Cycle 1 (2024-2026): GL; Assessment Cycle 2 (2026-2028): MD; alternating pattern then repeats*

Core Curriculum Assessment Rotation – Tier I

ASSESSMENT CYCLE	Written English	Math	History	Sciences	FYEX
2024-2026	Critical Thinking Creative Thinking Oral Comm.	Critical Thinking Creative Thinking Quant. Literacy	Critical Thinking Written Comm. Lifelong Learning	Critical Thinking Quant. Literacy Info. Literacy	Critical Thinking Info. Literacy Lifelong Learning
2026-2028	Written Comm. Lifelong Learning Critical Thinking	Problem Solving Lifelong Learning Critical Thinking	Critical Thinking Written Comm. Lifelong Learning	Collab./Teamwork Problem Solving Lifelong Learning	Exper. Learning Wellness Critical Thinking
2028-2032	Creative Thinking Written Comm. Lifelong Learning	Creative Thinking Quant. Literacy Problem Solving	Critical Thinking Written Comm. Lifelong Learning	Critical Thinking Quant. Literacy Info. Literacy	Info. Literacy Lifelong Learning Exper. Learning
2032-2034	Critical Thinking Creative Thinking Written Comm.	Lifelong Learning Critical Thinking Creative Thinking	Critical Thinking Written Comm. Lifelong Learning	Collab./Teamwork Problem Solving Lifelong Learning	Wellness Critical Thinking Info. Literacy
2034-2036	Lifelong Learning Critical Thinking Creative Thinking	Quant. Literacy Problem Solving Lifelong Learning	Critical Thinking Written Comm. Lifelong Learning	Critical Thinking Quant. Literacy Info. Literacy	Lifelong Learning Exper. Learning Wellness

Core Curriculum Assessment Rotation – Tier II

ASSESSMENT CYCLE	Arts	Humanities	Social Sciences	Wellness	Writing in Major
2024-2026	Creative Thinking Lifelong Learn CK, GL, MD (per catalog)	Lifelong Learn CK, GL, MD (per catalog) CK, GL, MD (per catalog)	Lifelong Learn CK, GL, MD (per catalog) CK, GL, MD (per catalog)	Lifelong Learn Wellness	Written Comm. Lifelong Learn
2026-2028	Creative Thinking Lifelong Learn CK, GL, MD (or alt. per catalog)	Lifelong Learn CK, GL, MD (per catalog) CK, GL, MD (per catalog)	Lifelong Learn CK, GL, MD (per catalog) CK, GL, MD (per catalog)	Lifelong Learn Wellness	Written Comm. Lifelong Learn
2028-2032	Creative Thinking Lifelong Learn CK, GL, MD (per catalog)	Lifelong Learn CK, GL, MD (per catalog) CK, GL, MD (per catalog)	Lifelong Learn CK, GL, MD (per catalog) CK, GL, MD (per catalog)	Lifelong Learn Wellness	Written Comm. Lifelong Learn
2032-2034	Creative Thinking Lifelong Learn CK, GL, MD (or alt. per catalog)	Lifelong Learn CK, GL, MD (per catalog) CK, GL, MD (per catalog)	Lifelong Learn CK, GL, MD (per catalog) CK, GL, MD (per catalog)	Lifelong Learn Wellness	Written Comm. Lifelong Learn
2034-2036	Creative Thinking Lifelong Learn CK, GL, MD (per catalog)	Lifelong Learn CK, GL, MD (per catalog) CK, GL, MD (per catalog)	Lifelong Learn CK, GL, MD (per catalog) CK, GL, MD (per catalog)	Lifelong Learn Wellness	Written Comm. Lifelong Learn

Core Curriculum Assessment Rotation – Tier III

ASSESSMENT CYCLE	Capstone
2024-2026	Oral Communication Written Communication Lifelong Learning
2026-2028	Ethical Practice and Ethical Reasoning Experiential Learning Oral Communication
2028-2032	Written Communication Lifelong Learning Ethical Practice and Ethical Reasoning
2032-2034	Experiential Learning Oral Communication Written Communication
2034-2036	Lifelong Learning Ethical Practice and Ethical Reasoning Experiential Learning