**General Education Program at CSUSM**

**Mission Statement**

The GE Program has been developed in the context of the University's Mission, Vision and Values, and American Association of Colleges and Universities’ Essential Learning Outcomes from the LEAP initiative, as per Executive Order 1065.

The General Education curriculum supports the development of CSUSM students as effective communicators, critical thinkers and life-long learners. It also promotes their development into responsible adults and informed citizens capable of functioning in, and contributing to, a rapidly changing world. The University encourages students to examine moral and ethical issues; the historical past and its relationship to the present; human behavior, culture and language, values and institutions; modern sciences and technology; human diversity and issues that are both global and local. To this end, the GE program has been designed to facilitate students’ interactions with these fundamental values.

The General Education program at CSUSM has four foundational goals. First, students will develop competency in the basic skills characteristic of an educated person: critical thinking, quantitative reasoning, information literacy, and communication, with an emphasis on developing clear, coherent, and effective writing skills. Second, students will cultivate their knowledge of human cultures and the natural and physical world. To this end, students will be exposed to and think critically about diversity; the interrelatedness of peoples in local, national and global contexts; the interaction of science, technology and society; and how organisms interact with their environments. Third, the GE program will foster students’ growth in personal and social responsibility. Fourth, students will integrate this knowledge through their exposure to both disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to academic fields of study.

The aim of CSU San Marcos is to instill in its students the enthusiasm and curiosity, the healthy skepticism, and the habit of continuing inquiry that are central to all truly educated men and women. The goal is to enable them to realize their potential as enlightened individuals and productive members of society in a world of change.