



General Education Experiences of 2008-09 Graduates

The graphs below present the distributions of general education outcomes provided in classes successfully completed by a sample (N = 137) of all (481) 2008-09 associate degree graduates. Three categories of graduates were reviewed: those earning Associate in Arts transfer degrees (DTA), Associate in Arts General Studies degrees, and Vocational Associate (ATA) degrees. The following table provides counts of degrees by type.

	DEGREE_TITLE	EXIT CODE	COUNT
Transfer Degrees	AA UNIV COLL TRFR DTA	D	93
	ASSOC APPLIED SCI ECE	T	1
	ASSOC IN BUSINESS DTA/MRP	F	8
	ASSOC IN SCI-PHYSICS/ENGR	H	2
Vocational Degrees	ATA MEDICAL ASSISTANT	1, CIP not = 240101	1
	ATA FIRE PROTECTION TECH		1
	ATA MULTI/INTER TECH		3
	ATA NURSING		5
	ATA OFTEC ACCOUNTING PARAPRO		4
	ATA OFTEC ADMIN ASSISTANT		2
	ATA PARALEGAL		1
General Studies Degrees	AA GENERAL STUDIES	1, CIP = 240101	16
Total			137

A file of graduates was obtained from the Completions file in the SBCTC's Data Warehouse. This was linked to the Data Warehouse Transcript file to obtain a list of all classes successfully completed by each of the graduating student. An additional file was constructed that listed each of the classes taken by the sample and their associated general education objectives, as stipulated on the college's web site.

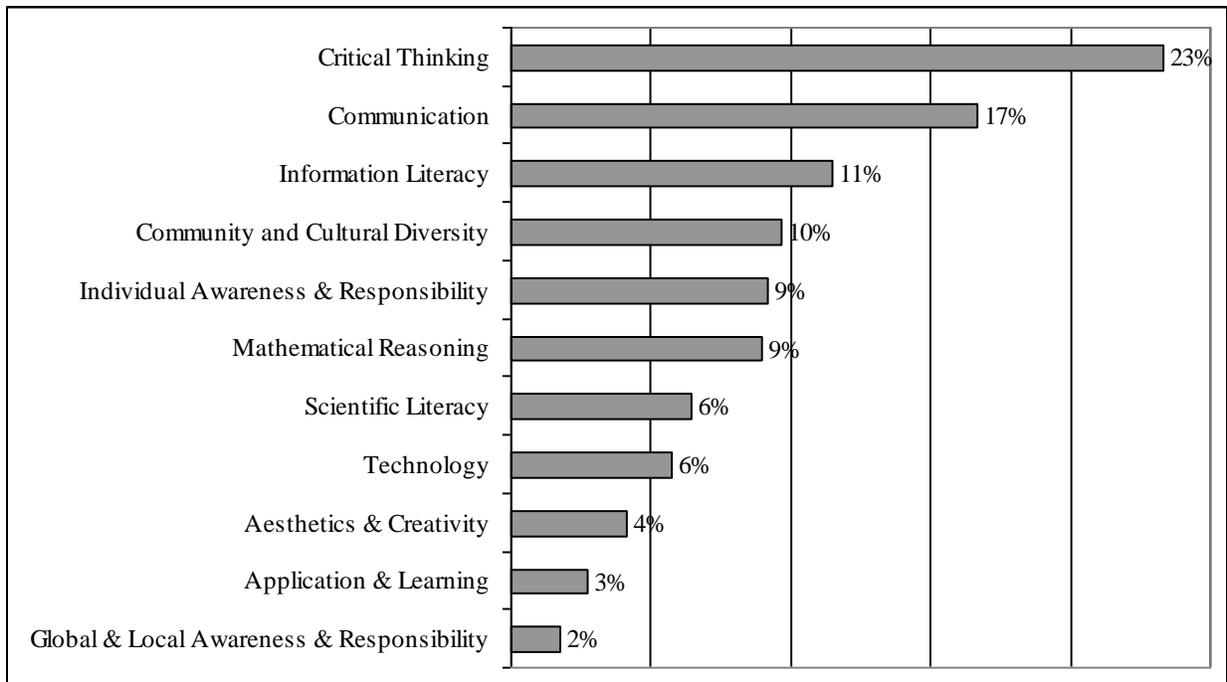
Because many of our students transfer in with credits acquired at other colleges, some of the spring quarter graduates earned fewer than 30 credits at SVC. Obviously, these individuals did not have the opportunity to experience a full range of documented general education instruction at our institution. The sample cohort was consequently restricted to 137 graduates who had earned between 90 and 100 college-level credits at SVC. Only enrollments that resulted in earned credits were included (Earned credit field = Y).

In a few cases students completed the same course multiple times. These were primarily PE activity courses. In these cases, the course and its associated Gen Ed outcomes were counted only once per student.

Some of the cohort took a portion of their courses as far back as the 1990s – well before the college defined and published its general education outcomes. In such cases, the current outcomes associated with the classes were used. While this may have been less than ideal, no workable alternative was apparent.

Microsoft Access was used for all files and queries needed to construct the following tables. They are available for inspection in the Office of Institutional Research.

The table below presents the percentage distribution of general education outcomes experienced by the 137 2008-09 graduates in classes successfully completed.



An immediate question is whether the distribution of general education instruction experienced varied for student with different kinds of degrees. As the table on the following page illustrates, the general education experiences of the three categories of graduates—transfer, general studies, and vocational degree recipients—seem roughly parallel, with the exception of vocational degree recipients who were associated with a lower percentage for scientific literacy but higher percentages for technology and for individual awareness and responsibility.

