

## **Outcome Categories and Components**

### **Communication**

- Understands and uses discipline-specific language.
- Expresses ideas orally in an organized, clear, and concise manner.
- Writes clearly and concisely using correct grammar, spelling, syntax, and sentence structure.

### **Creativity**

- Displays insight about the topic being investigated.
- Shows ability to approach problems from different perspectives.
- Uses information in ways that demonstrate intellectual resourcefulness.
- Effectively connects multiple ideas/approaches.

### **Autonomy**

- Demonstrates an ability to work independently and identify when guidance is needed.
- Accepts constructive criticism and uses feedback effectively.
- Uses time well to ensure work gets accomplished.
- Sets and meets project deadlines.

### **Ability to Deal with Obstacles**

- Is not discouraged by unforeseen problems and perseveres when encountering challenges or setbacks.
- Shows flexibility and a willingness to take risks and try again.
- Trouble-shoots problems and searches for ways to do things more effectively.

### **Intellectual Development**

- Recognizes that problems are often more complicated than they first appear.
- Approaches problems with an understanding that there can be more than one right explanation or even none at all.
- Displays accurate insight into the limits of his/her own knowledge and an appreciation for what isn't known.

### **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**

- Challenges established thinking when appropriate.
- Looks for the root causes of problems and develops or recognizes the most appropriate corrective actions.
- Recognizes flaws, assumptions and missing elements in arguments.

### **Practice and Process of Inquiry**

- Demonstrates ability to formulate questions and hypotheses within the discipline:
- Demonstrates ability to properly identify and/or generate reliable data:
- Shows understanding of how knowledge is generated, validated and communicated within the discipline:

### **Nature of Disciplinary Knowledge**

- Shows understanding of the way practitioners think within the discipline (e.g., as an earth scientist, sociologist, artist . . .) and view the world around them.
- Shows understanding of the criteria for determining what is valued as a contribution in the discipline.
- Shows awareness of important contributions in the discipline and who was responsible for those contributions.
- Reads and applies information obtained from professional journals and other sources.
- Is aware of professional societies in the discipline.

### **Content Knowledge and Methods**

- Displays knowledge of key facts and concepts.
- Displays a grasp of relevant research methods and is clear about how these methods apply to the research project being undertaken.
- Demonstrates an appropriate mastery of skills needed to conduct the project.

### **Ethical conduct**

- Recognizes that it is unethical to create, modify, misrepresent, omit, eliminate or misreport data or findings, or to misrepresent authorship.
- Behaves with a high level of collegiality and treats others with respect.

### **Career Goals**

- Is clear about academic and/or professional/work plans.
- Is aware of how research skills relate to academic and/or professional/work plans.