

From the Carleton Academic Catalog 2001-2002

“At its simplest, a liberal education teaches *the basic skills* upon which higher achievements rest: *to read perceptively, to write and speak clearly, and to think analytically*. Carleton draws upon these skills to foster a critical appreciation of our intellectual, aesthetic, and moral heritage and to encourage original thought. A Carleton student not only masters certain information and techniques, but also acquires *a sense of curiosity and intellectual adventure, an awareness of method and purpose in a variety of fields, and an affinity for quality and integrity* wherever they may be found.” [Emphases added]

Sample Department goals

- [*Your department here*] majors should begin their "senior integrative exercise" having practiced all of the formal steps in the process (recognizing problems, writing proposals, carrying out a project, reporting a project in several ways) multiple times in previous [*your department here*] courses;
- Students graduating from Carleton as [*your department here*] majors should learn a variety of [*your discipline here -*] specific skills, preferably practicing these skills in more than one course;
- [*Your department here*] graduates also should develop general communication, analysis, information and quantitative skills in [*your department here*] courses.

Why Use a Matrix?

- Provides a snapshot in time of what department faculty do (for both non-majors and majors)
- Promotes thinking in skills, in addition to content for students and faculty (e.g. course syllabi and handouts)
- Work in progress; the process may be more important than the result
- May help build openness and trust
- May provide a fresh look at workload

FIRST-ORDER SKILLS

	Course No:	110	120	210	220	230
	Course Title:	Intro	IntEn	Geomorph	Tect	Paleo
First-order skills:						
CRITICAL THINKING						
WRITING						
SPEAKING						
QUANTITATION						
INFORMATION LITERACY						
WORKING IN GROUPS						
DATA COLLECTION						
EXPERIMENTATION/SIMULATION						
COMPUTER SKILLS						
THINKING IN 3-D						

Matrix form

Writing skills examples

Courses	Skills	110	intro120	intro210		220	230paleo	240Italy	250min2	255pet	Ess
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(Carleton examples) Key: a = always, each year; s = some years; blank = rarely or never

Intrigued? Want information?

Today's LTC event is sponsored by the Carleton "Integrative Learning" project, supported by AAC&U/Carnegie Foundation. Team members are Scott Bierman, Liz Ciner, Jackie Lauer-Glebov, Carol Rutz and Mary Savina. We are looking for departments and programs interested in participating.

Example of class handout:

“A List of Some Skills you acquired in Geology 210 (Geomorphology)”

- **A. Working with topographic maps**
- **B. Working with aerial photos and slides and other remote sensing**
- **C. Field skills**
- **D. Calculation and computer skills**
- **E. Information literacy skills**
- **F. Integrative skills**