

# ConnectED Symposium

May 4, 2022

**Session 2: Path through ConnectED**

# ConnectED in Action

Fall 2021-Spring 2023

## **Foundations: 12-13 credits**

- UNIV 111, 112 and 200 (or HONR courses)
- MATH 131, MATH 139, MATH141, MATH151, MATH200, STAT 208, STAT 210, STAT 212, BUSN 171, BUSN 212

**Areas of Inquiry** with a course from each of the **Breaths of Knowledge**  
(Behavioral/Social Science, Humanities/fine arts, and Natural Science): **17-18 credits**

- Diversities in the Human Experience
- Creativity, Innovation, and Aesthetic Inquiry
- Global Perspectives
- Scientific and Logical Reasoning

# Proposing courses to ConnectED

## Propose a class

The General Education Curriculum Committee (GECC) is now soliciting courses to be part of the Areas of Inquiry for Fall 2023. These can include existing courses or brand new course offerings. Courses that are already approved in the GenEd curriculum do not need to reapply.

**Application to Participate in ConnectEd: VCU General Education Curriculum »**

<https://provost.vcu.edu/initiatives/gened/>

# Racial Literacy requirement: Strengthening the Foundations

## Racial literacy requirement

The University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee has approved adding a racial literacy requirement to general education, which will go into effect for the 2023-24 academic year.

Courses that fulfill the racial literacy requirement will ask students to identify, engage, and contextualize ongoing structures of racialized power and privilege. These courses will introduce the social construction of race and racism as political, social, and cultural inventions.

<https://provost.vcu.edu/initiatives/gened/racialliteracy/>

# Racial Literacy requirement: Impact on Structure

Starting Fall 2023

Foundations: 15-16 credits

- UNIV 111, 112 and 200 (or HONR courses)
- MATH 131, MATH 139, MATH141, MATH151, MATH200, STAT 208, STAT 210, STAT 212, BUSN 171, BUSN 212
- Racial literacy course

Complete at least 3 credits in each of 3 out of 4 Areas of Inquiry with a course from each of the Breaths of knowledge (Behavioral/Social Science, Humanities/fine arts, and Natural Science):  
14-15 credits

- Diversities in the Human Experience
- Creativity, Innovation, and Aesthetic Inquiry
- Global Perspectives
- Scientific and Logical Reasoning

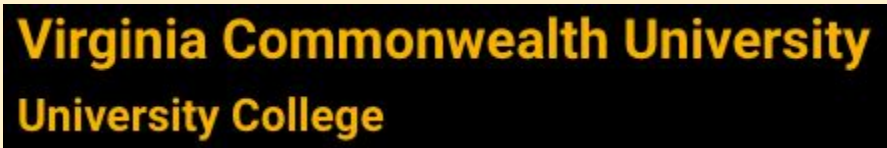
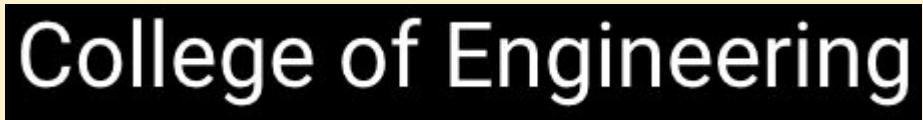
<https://provost.vcu.edu/initiatives/gened/>

# Strategies for Students

- Work with their advisors to plan ahead
- Certain courses in ConnectED are prerequisites to their major requirements
- Take the time to explore the course options! Students should take courses that interest them and satisfy the requirements.

# Transfer Students

- If a student completes a transfer-oriented associate degree by the end of their first semester at VCU, then their general education is waived.
- If a student completes a general education certificate at a community college, then their general education is waived
- Otherwise, courses may be applied individually to general education requirements.





# GECC representatives

**Angela Reynolds (Chair)**

**Jonathan Moore**

**Rohan Kalyan**

**Adam Ewing**

**Julianne Guillard**

**Vicki Pallo (Chair-Elect)**

**Anne Marie Gardinier Halstead**

**Ross Collin**

**Allison Ryals**

**Daniel Salandro**

**Alena Hampton**

**Gregory Triplett**

**James Keck**

**Carly Phinizy**

**vacant**

**CHS/Mathematics**

**CHS/Natural Sciences**

**CHS/Humanities**

**CHS/Social Sciences**

**University College**

**University College**

**Honors College**

**School of Education**

**School of Social Work**

**School of Business**

**VCU Health Sciences**

**College of Engineering**

**Wilder School**

**School of the Arts**

**Life Sciences**

# Roadmap for ConnectED Assessment

- Instead of Compliance, think Student Success and Retention
- Instead of Reports, think Continuous Improvement
- Instead of Accountability, think Equity-Mindedness
- Instead of Standardized Testing, think **Programmatic Assessment**



# ConnectED Learning Goals Schedule

<b>Gen Ed Goal</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>	<b>2022-2023</b>	<b>2023-2024</b>
<b>Communicative Fluency</b>	<b>XXX</b>		
<b>Information Literacy</b>	<b>XXX</b>		
<b>Problem Solving</b>	<b>Preparation</b>	<b>XXX</b>	
<b>Ethical Reasoning</b>	<b>Preparation</b>	<b>XXX</b>	
<b>Quantitative Literacy</b>		<b>Preparation</b>	<b>XXX</b>
<b>Global and Cultural Responsiveness</b>		<b>Preparation</b>	<b>XXX</b>

# Year 1: Communicative Fluency and Information Literacy

## Goals for Year 1:

- **Faculty participation and building a structure for assessing ConnectED.**
- **Introduce OAP/AQUA as our assessment tool for both collection of student work and for faculty scoring student work.**

## How did it go?

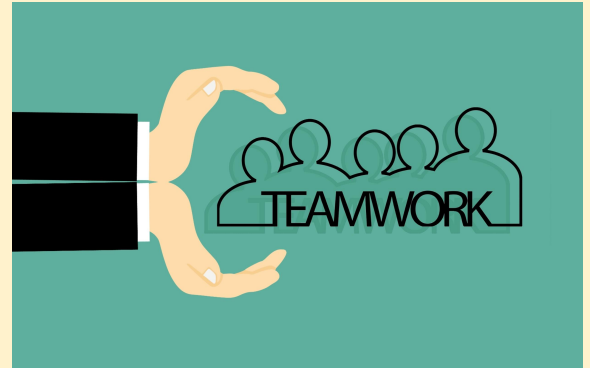
- **As of 5/3/2022:**
  - **Communicative Fluency: 1966 student artifacts submitted from 25 courses**
  - **Information Literacy: 3703 student artifacts submitted from 28 courses**

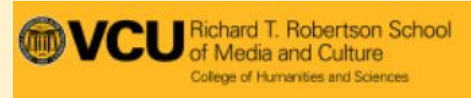
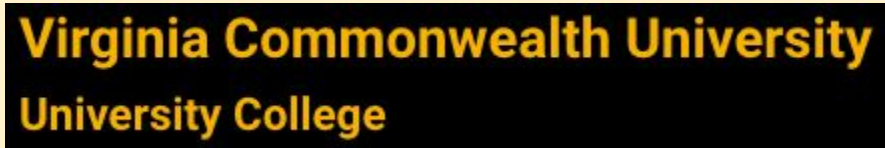
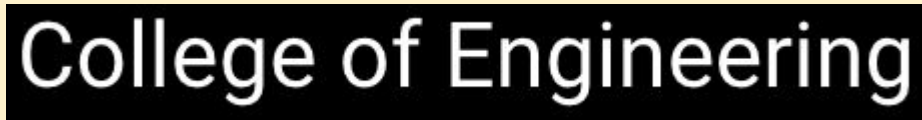
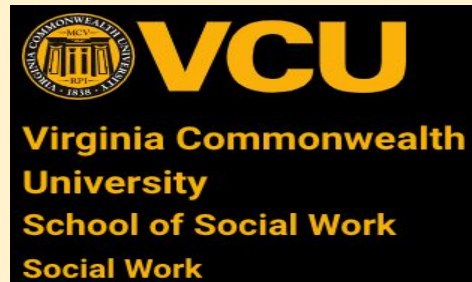
# Plans for 2022-2023 ConnectED Assessment

- **Scope:** Approximately 120 courses with over 1000 sections
- **Learning Goals Assessed:** Ethical Reasoning and Problem Solving (Critical and Creative)
- **Requirements of ConnectED Faculty**
  - Identify existing assignment of student work in your course
  - Facilitate students uploading assignment in Canvas using a URL to link OAP (formerly AQUA)
- **Assessment**
  - Recruit faculty to serve as assessors Summer of 2023
    - Training on OAP and use of programmatic rubrics
    - Sampling strategy: random and representative
  - Analysis
    - Learning outcomes criteria
    - Demographic and academic markers

# Best Practices for Engaging Faculty in ConnectED Assessment

- Success depends on all levels of the University working together
- Actively support and model a positive “culture of assessment”
  - Faculty learning communities and development
  - Centers for teaching and learning workshops
  - Stipends for summer scoring
  - Leadership opportunities





# **GEAC representatives**

**Carolina Yaber (Co-chair)**

**Virginia Wray Totaro (Co-chair)**

**John Brinegar**

**Christy Tyndall**

**Angie Wetzel**

**Humberto Fabelo**

**Roxanne Spindle**

**Allison Gregory**

**Parker Stanley**

**Bradley Nichols**

**James Smither**

**vacant**

**vacant**

**vacant**

**CHS/Natural Sciences**

**University College**

**CHS/Humanities**

**Honors College**

**School of Education**

**School of Social Work**

**School of Business**

**School of Nursing**

**VCU Health Professions**

**College of Engineering**

**Wilder School**

**School of the Arts**

**Life Sciences**

**CHS/Social Sciences**



# Annual Spring Semester Events

1. Outreach to Associate Deans, Department Chairs, etc.
2. Symposium and feedback process
3. Ongoing Faculty Support and Information
  - a. Basics of programmatic assessment
  - b. Identifying student work



# Annual Fall Semester Events

- Brown bag – Workshop(s) for 2022-2023 learning goals
  - Problem Solving (Critical and Creative)
  - Ethical Reasoning
- Reports and Presentations to stakeholders



# Summer of 2022 Learning Collaborative

**May 19th and 20th:** 20 faculty members will gather to score a random, stratified sample to ensure all courses are represented in the data. Participating faculty will receive a stipend.

**All units with courses in ConnectED** should have faculty involved in the scoring process. It is to your advantage to have someone representing your interests in refining the learning goals and outcomes.

**Alignment is the priority** - Our tools for assessment need to better reflect the learning that is happening in gen ed courses but faculty involvement is the only way to work on this process.

**Q&A**