



The University of Scranton

Mission, Vision, and Institutional Student Learning Outcomes

The Mission of the University:

The University of Scranton is a Catholic and Jesuit university animated by the spiritual vision and the tradition of excellence characteristic of the Society of Jesus and those who share in its way of proceeding. The University is a community dedicated to the freedom of inquiry and personal development fundamental to the growth in wisdom and integrity of all who share in its life.

The Vision of the University:

Our Vision: The University of Scranton will be boldly driven by a shared commitment to excellence. We will provide a superior, transformational learning experience, preparing students who, in the words of Jesuit founder St. Ignatius Loyola, will *“set the world on fire”*.

Institutional Student Learning Outcomes:

Graduates of The University of Scranton will move beyond the possession of the intellectual and practical skills that form the basis of professional competence and inspired by *The Magis* possess the knowledge and ability to address the most significant questions, engaging their colleagues successfully and ethically, and advancing towards positions of leadership in their chosen field of study. Furthermore, our graduates will, through their experience of *cura personalis*, demonstrate that they are persons of character and women and men for and with others, through their devotion to the spiritual and corporal welfare of other human beings and by their special commitment to the pursuit of social justice and the common good of the entire human community.

Upon completion of their program of study, students will be able to:

1. Develop and use the intellectual and practical competencies that are the foundation of personal and professional development and lifelong learning including oral and written communication, scientific and quantitative reasoning, critical analysis and reasoning, and technological competency and information literacy¹.
2. Exhibit broad knowledge of the human condition, understanding the world in its physical and natural aspects, as well as the philosophical and theological basis for modern thought, faith and belief.
3. Demonstrate competence in their chosen field of study, using the knowledge and ability to address the most significant questions, and advancing towards positions of leadership.
4. Employ their knowledge and intellect to address situations in a way that demonstrates a devotion to the spiritual and corporal welfare of other human beings and by a special commitment to the pursuit of social justice and the common good of the entire human community.

¹ These competency areas are also cornerstones of general education. The University's general education goals are further articulated in the document, *The General Education Program*.

The Strategic Plan: An Engaged, Integrated and Global Student Experience

Engaged: Implement diverse opportunities for students to be *engaged* in transformative and reflective academic, social, spiritual and service-oriented experiences that are intentionally designed to develop their knowledge and skills while challenging them to be men and women of faith and service to their communities.

Integrated: Deliver transformational educational experiences through *integrated* teaching, learning, scholarship, and formation opportunities across disciplines, programs, and co-curricular experiences, within a culture of innovation, assessment, and continuous improvement.

Global: Provide opportunities for students to be immersed in academic, moral, and spiritual learning that cultivates reflection, discernment and action in a *global* context and within a multicultural learning environment.

INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING PRINCIPLES: Creating a Sustainable Environment for the Engaged, Integrated and Global Student Experience

Concentrating on the student learning experience includes consideration of areas that lie outside of the direct academic and residential life of students. In order to address this wider context and to establish and clearly articulate these links, the Strategic Plan is grounded in the following principles:

1. Ensure that a University of Scranton education remains cost competitive to our student target market and allows families to avoid the burden of excessive student debt.
2. Implement a new business model that increases revenue, reduces costs and is directly guided by strategic priorities.
3. Use existing best practices and technologies to streamline and modernize operations and to lower costs.
4. Transform administrative structures to best position the University to respond to opportunities and market pressures based on our strategic priorities, including the creation of new programs and the regular assessment of existing programs.
5. Cultivate assurance of learning and student formation through continuous assessment to improve student achievement, retention, satisfaction, educational programs, and the financial practices that support them.
6. Ensure that the University's capital campaign and development efforts, including outreach to alumni, parents and friends, work in concert with and in support of our strategic priorities, and that the entire University community is engaged in supporting this effort
7. Preserve and strengthen the University's sense of community as one of our most valued assets and a core differentiating characteristic, emphasizing genuine concern for one another, transparency, communication, engagement, equity, and shared governance in the conduct of University affairs.