Foundation: Life Sciences

The life sciences are the study of the structure and function of living things. Such study ranges from the level of molecules within cells to ecosystems of organisms interacting with each other and their environment. Study of the concepts, history, contexts, and methodologies of the life sciences assists students in becoming scientifically literate. Courses in this category prepare students to understand and appreciate not only themselves as organisms, but also other organisms in the world around them. Courses contribute to the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and help students apply an understanding of scientific ways of thinking to make more informed personal and social choices.

Content Student Learning Outcomes
All courses in the Life Sciences category include the following content:
1. An introduction to science as a way of investigating and understanding the physical universe.
2. The unifying concepts of the life sciences such as evolution and cellular organization of organisms.

Skills Student Learning Outcome 1 (choose one of the following):
   a) Information literacy — the iterative process of identifying, accessing, evaluating, and synthesizing multiple forms of information; or
   b) Quantitative literacy — a competency and confidence in working with numbers.

Skills Student Learning Outcome 2 (choose one of the following):
   a) Collaboration — the process of working together and sharing the workload equitably to progress toward shared objectives, learned through structured activities that occur over a significant period of time; or
   b) Problem solving — the process of designing and evaluating strategies to answer open-ended questions.