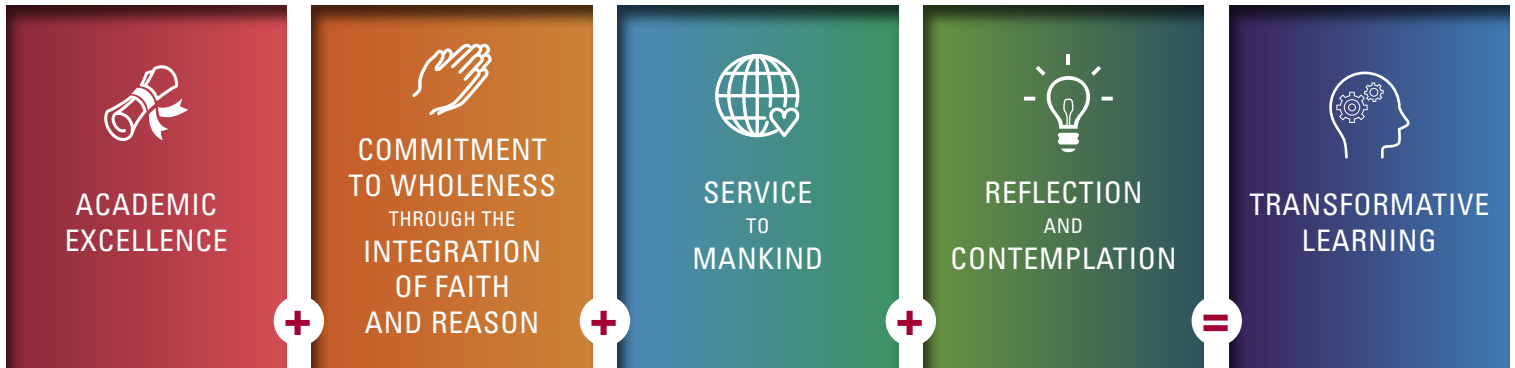


MISSION-FOCUSED LEARNING (MFL)



MISSION-FOCUSED LEARNING Environment

- **Fosters** the highest commitment to analytical and critical thinking
- **Advocates** the highest ethical and professional standards of practice and care
- **Values** the creation of new knowledge and the faithful transmission of best practices within professional and scientific disciplines
- **Provides a learner-centered educational environment** that facilitates the absorption of knowledge; perfection of skills, blending of evidenced-based decision-making with transformative learning events (“teachable moments”)
- **Sustains a culture of service** to all others (especially the underserved)
- **Transforms lives** through service and the pursuit of wisdom

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LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY

Many Strengths.
One Mission.

Mission-Focused Learning (MFL) Standards with Best Practice Examples for Courses

Loma Linda University (LLU)

Completed: September 12, 2018 | Updated: December 6, 2019

MFL Standards for Programs and Courses

To further the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ, “to make man whole,” LLU’s programs and courses include:

- Integration of faith in God and course content in relevant and meaningful ways.
- Orientation and preparation for lives of service, exemplifying LLU’s core values.
- Emphasis on health and wholeness¹ informed by the Adventist perspective.

Best Practice Examples

The MFL standards are designed for programs and courses, and the best practices for each standard are meant to be examples that inspire faculty to develop their own or use as is.

1. Integration of faith in God and course content in relevant and meaningful ways.

- Include Biblical references or Scriptural passages with tools such as BibleGateway.com, text, videos and narratives.
- Reference spiritual experiences and stories from personal experience and Christian writers including Ellen White and other Christian writers, plus historical Adventist stories.
- Incorporate or reference prayer in interactions with students through discussions, announcements and Zoom conferences.
- Develop discussions/conversations, self-assessment exercises, case studies and other assignments that require implementing faith, LLU’s vision, mission and/or values into the learning experience in as natural way as possible.

2. Orientation and preparation for lives of service exemplifying LLU’s core values.

- Exemplify the LLU values in interactions with students.
- Strive to integrate one or more of LLU core values² into each course.
- Give stories or case studies of how a specific value is exemplified.
- Have students watch videos focused on the course topic and have students reflect, discuss and apply what they learned in it. “A Certain Kind of Light: What would we hear if we really listened?” is a video that would be appropriate for many healthcare courses.

¹ **LLU Wholeness:** Loved by God, growing in health, living with purpose in community

² **LLU Core Values:** Compassion, Excellence, Humility, Integrity, Justice, Teamwork, Wholeness



- Provide scriptural verses/passages, philosophies, contemporary quotes, etc., addressing the core value being taught.
- Assign student journals with self-reflections about how the course impacts student life (video or text-based format).
- Share students' experiences in service, such as: A Pioneer's Life for Me.
- Ensure that online students understand that they may participate in LLU Students for International Mission Service (SIMS) trips. They can also find local opportunities to serve in their own communities similar to LLU Community-Academic Partners in Service (CAPS) opportunities.

3. **Emphasis on health and wholeness¹ informed by the Adventist perspective.**

- Keep wholeness in mind when selecting learning activities (journal, videos, resources, etc.)
- Encourage healthy life-style practices (work-life balance, rest, vegetarianism, exercise, developing and maintaining relationships).
- Present and discuss the latest credible scientific studies/research on healthy practices such as Banta's work in exploring global influence of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on diet.
- Promote awareness of mental health (depression, anxiety, suicide), connecting students to resources and encouraging hope.
- Invite prayer requests and have prayer (phone, video conference, text-based discussion board), etc., share a meaningful prayer.
- Use community-applied learning activities (service-learning, community outreach, family and workplace) in the spirit of LLU's mission.
- Provide online communities and social media spaces (for interactions around impacts in life, prayer, coaching, inspiring each other).
- Encourage or require students to view online University@Worship services (Wednesdays and recorded sessions). There may be opportunities for online students to participate in live University@Worship services, such as giving prayer, via Zoom. If interested, contact the LLU online chaplain: K.C. Hohensee. Provide discussion/reflection opportunities.
- Provide links to selected external Seventh-day Adventist resources in areas of health, family relations, spiritual life, etc.

MFL Resource Library To Be Published in Every Online Course

This library would include many resources including the following:

- Bible-centered video clips, verses, stories, worship thought, devotionals
(www.biblegateway.com)
- Ellen G. White – selected quotes from her inspired writings
(www.whiteestate.org, <https://egwwritings.org>)
- Seventh-day Adventist Health Heritage (stories, ideas, tips, experiences, resources)
(<http://www.adventistheritage.org/article/136/resources/pioneer-stories>)
- History of Loma Linda University: The Pioneers
- LLU missionary stories, community experiences. New School of Dentistry book of stories will be coming out about how alumni have lived LLU values, experience and education. School of Medicine has two devotional books: Morning Rounds and Evening Rounds
- LLU 360 videos
- Inspirational stories