

Learning Community Responsibilities – Fall Quarter

In this program we will examine mathematics, chemistry, and physics with emphasis on connections among the three. Each student will bring their unique background and goals to our studies, and it is our collective goal to build on those strengths at the same time as we stretch our learning in new directions. Upon completion, students will have gained a working knowledge of scientific and mathematical concepts and laboratory techniques, an ability to reason critically about applied and fundamental problems in math, chemistry, and physics, and practice in creating and working in an intentionally inclusive and anti-bias learning environment. These goals and the activities we undertake to reach them support students' work towards meeting the expectations of an Evergreen graduate. In order to achieve these goals, we ask you to agree to certain responsibilities involved in building a learning community.

Building a learning community

In an Evergreen learning community we are all co-learners with the opportunity to learn from each other, and we all have a responsibility to cultivate the ideal conditions for collaborative learning. Community is a state of being in the world that requires our attention and work to achieve. In a learning community, we collaborate to expand our knowledge and abilities. Collaborative learning develops a set of skills and experiences that will equip you to deal with a broad array of situations in future learning and work of almost any kind.

Success in a learning community does not mean that we all agree with each other all the time, or that conflicts never emerge. It means that we acknowledge each other as human beings, take delight in the variety of perspectives we bring to the table, and seek to address conflicts and differences of opinion with a spirit of generosity and flexibility.

A successful learning community requires its members to fulfill responsibilities to themselves and to others. It is our expectation to actively create and support a bias-free classroom. All students have a right to be heard, respected, and valued. We expect students and faculty to be aware of socio-cultural privilege dynamics and how that may impact student learning and the classroom environment. It is expected that all participants in this program will be socially responsible and enter into the program in a spirit of goodwill.

Faculty share these responsibilities:

- Plan and implement the program and communicate changes to the syllabus.
- Provide timely and thoughtful responses to student work.
- Make time available for individual conferences with students during Evaluation week and as needed.
- Make every effort to notify students when they are at risk of losing credit.
- Handle all disputes in a spirit of respect and goodwill.
- Conduct interactions collaboratively and professionally.
- Actively participate in faculty seminars and planning meetings.
- Write formal evaluations of student achievement at the end of the quarter.

Students share these responsibilities:

- Engage actively with the program. This includes coming to class on time and prepared to participate in all activities.
- Complete and submit all assignments on time according to submission guidelines. Assignments must be submitted in the appropriate format to be considered for evaluation. Students should not expect faculty to read or comment on work received late, nor should they expect to receive credit for late work.
- Maintain a portfolio of all work, assessments, and evaluations.
- Include a transcript-worthy self-evaluation in your portfolio for each quarter and, if relevant, update your Academic Statement.

- Keep up. Check college email and the program blog regularly for information about the program. If you miss class it is your responsibility to find out from another student what you have missed and to catch up on all assignments and announcements including changes to the program syllabus.
- Be proactive and communicate.
 - If you have questions or concerns about your work or the program, contact faculty directly.
 - **Grievance:** Should an unresolved disagreement occur between a student and the faculty team, students have the right to follow the normal college grievance procedures described in the student handbook.
 - Students who require accommodations for academic work should contact Access Services (ph. 360-867-6348/TTY: 360-867-6834). Information about such accommodations is confidential and protected by legal and ethical considerations.
- Engage in self-care. If you become ill, stay home and recover quickly rather than extending your illness by over-exertion. While protecting your privacy, let the faculty know by e-mail or voice-mail as soon as possible when you miss class because of illness.
- Approach all program work with integrity. If faculty detect cheating, plagiarism, or other lapses of academic integrity, they will discuss the issue with the student and may report the instance for the Campus Grievance Officer to pursue further. Consequences may include removal from the program and expulsion from Evergreen. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:
 - Copying *any* material from the internet for inclusion in your work without citing the author and context clearly.
 - Copying text, images, or ideas from a book, magazine, journal, essay, website, etc. by anyone else without clear citation of the author or original context.
- Conduct program activities in a responsible manner. This includes:
 - cleaning up after yourself so that overworked janitorial staff or others don't have to do so,
 - following and respecting all lab safety protocols and requirements, including safe and appropriate use of equipment, careful attention to safety rules, and appropriate and timely clean-up,
 - using College equipment, facilities, and other shared resources responsibly,
 - acting in compliance with all relevant College policies.
- With regards to general conduct, please read and follow the Students Rights and Responsibilities (www.evergreen.edu/studentaffairs/rightsandresponsibilities.htm). Be sure to read the Evergreen Social Contract, the Student Conduct Code, and the Campus Sexual Harassment Policy.
- Write an evaluation of each faculty at the end of the program.

All members of the program share these responsibilities:

- Encouraging the free exchange of ideas in a respectful and civil manner. This includes showing respect for others who are speaking or listening (for example, talking, whispering, text messaging, cell phone ringing, or inappropriate use of portable computers is disruptive to the speaker and to those listening; turn off and store all electronic devices unless relevant for class activities).
- Keeping confidential any personal information others may reveal during program discussions.
- Recognizing that no one is exempt from dynamics of privilege and oppression and striving to be aware of how our actions and words affect others and communicating honestly to others about how their actions affect us.
- Responding civilly and productively when others communicate to us how our words or actions have affected them.
- Abiding by the Social Contract, the Sexual Harassment policy, and other college policies that regulate community members' behaviors.

Repeated disruption of the learning environment by violating these responsibilities and the spirit from which they arise may result in expulsion from the program.

By signing the group signature page, I certify that I have read the Matter and Motion Fall Quarter Learning Community Responsibilities and agree to abide by them, and that I have placed a copy of these Responsibilities in a secure location with my program handouts.