

DEFINITION OF STUDENT SUCCESS
Created Spring Semester 2014

The true measure of student success is how well students are prepared to accomplish their current and future academic, personal, and professional goals through the development of knowledge, a sense of responsibility and self-reliance, and a connection to the college and wider community.

KNOWLEDGE

1. PERSONAL MEANING: Students develop a sense of purpose and perceive the Nazareth experience (both curricular and co-curricular) as being personally and professionally relevant to this purpose
2. PERSONAL REFLECTION: Students think reflectively about what they are learning and connect it to what they already know or have previously experienced so as to be better prepared for future personal and professional success
3. SELF-AWARENESS: Students develop self-awareness by becoming mindful of their learning styles, learning habits, and thinking patterns.

RESPONSIBILITY

4. INFORMED DECISION-MAKING: Students seek relevant information and take responsibility for themselves and their decisions
5. ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT: Students are actively engaged in the learning process (both inside and outside the classroom), exploration of their major and college requirements, and in the use of campus resources

CONNECTION

6. PERSONAL VALIDATION: Students feel personally validated and that they matter to Nazareth
7. SELF-EFFICACY: Students believe that their efforts matter and that they can influence or control the prospects for their success
8. SOCIAL INTEGRATION: Students are open to learning from those who have different backgrounds and perspectives, and can form meaningful relationships with members of local and global communities.

Student Success Outcomes

Student Retention (Persistence): entering college students remain, re-enroll, and continue their undergraduate education. For example, first-year students return for their sophomore year.

Educational Attainment: entering students persist to completion and attainment of their degree, program, or educational goal. For example, 4-year college students persist to completion of the baccalaureate degree.

Academic Achievement: students achieve satisfactory or superior levels of academic performance as they progress through and complete their college experience. For example, students avoid academic probation or qualify for academic honors.

Student Advancement: students proceed to and succeed at subsequent educational and occupational endeavors for which their college degree or program was designed to prepare them. For example, 4-year college students are accepted at graduate schools or enter gainful careers after completing their baccalaureate degree.

Holistic Development

- *Intellectual* Development: developing skills for acquiring and communicating knowledge, learning how to learn, and how to think deeply.
- *Emotional* Development: developing skills for understanding, controlling, and expressing emotions.
- *Social* Development: enhancing the quality and depth of interpersonal relationships, leadership skills, and civic engagement.
- *Ethical* Development: formulating a clear value system that guides life choices and demonstrates personal character.
- *Physical* Development: acquiring and applying knowledge about the human body to prevent disease, maintain wellness, and promote peak performance.
- *Spiritual* Development: appreciating the search for personal meaning, the purpose of human existence, and questions that transcend the material or physical world.