

Southeastern University Quality Enhancement Plan

Think it, Link it, Live it: Transforming Minds, Engaging Culture

The Quality Enhancement Plan of Southeastern University will address the issue of student learning by focusing on one component of the First Year Experience: the *Christ, Culture, and the University* course (CCU), which is required of all first-year students. The QEP will enhance student learning by emphasizing critical thinking, personal awareness, and cultural engagement in the CCU course.

The purpose of the QEP is to introduce first-year students to three essential elements of Southeastern University's ethos: Academics, Spiritual Formation, and Social Responsibility. These three critical aspects of Southeastern's mission will form the core of the restructuring of the CCU course, its content and context. The QEP will be launched to new traditional freshmen in Fall 2011, to transfer students in Fall 2013, and to evening/online populations in Fall 2014.

The three main components of the QEP are Academic Expectations (Foundations of Critical Thinking), Spiritual Formation (Foundations of Personal Awareness), and Social Responsibility (Foundations of Cultural Engagement). These components will form the core of the CCU course and are expressed in the QEP theme: *Think it, Link it, Live it: Transforming Minds, Engaging Culture*. Curricula and assessments have been developed to achieve and measure these student learning outcomes.

The data gathered from the stakeholders of the university indicated a desire to emphasize faith integration with academics, spiritual formation, and cultural engagement. Best practices, course evaluations, student surveys, faculty discussions, and faculty and student focus groups indicated that the CCU course continues to need improvement in methodology, content, and outcomes. This course is the logical venue to introduce students to these essential elements of SEU's ethos and culture. Students who successfully complete the redesigned CCU course will be able to:

- Think critically about a Christian worldview (Think it)
- Demonstrate awareness of personal gifts, calling, and temperament (Link it)
- Practice cultural engagement (Live it)

These three areas of focus are directly related to the Mission Statement of the University:

Southeastern, a dynamic, Christ-centered university [Think it], fosters student success by integrating personal faith and higher learning [Link it]. Within our loving Pentecostal community, we challenge students to a lifetime of good work and of preparing professionally so they can creatively serve [Live it] their generation in the Spirit of Christ.

Through the QEP, the *Christ, Culture, and the University* course will introduce new students to the university's mission: higher learning, Christian spirituality, and service to the world.

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