Students who complete Bridgewater State College’s Core Curriculum will:

- Know and understand the foundations of logic and reasoned argumentation.
- Know and understand the intellectual foundations, conceptual frameworks, and methodologies of the arts, behavioral/social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences.
- Make interdisciplinary connections and use insights from one discipline to deepen their understanding of other disciplines.
- Understand social and cultural implications of technology.

In addition, students will develop specific skills in the following areas:

**Communication**

Students will:

- attain fluency in written expression; specifically, develop and use effective written arguments; write clear thesis statements; craft coherent paragraphs; use prose that is clear, correct, concise, and varied; use standard academic English
- speak clearly, effectively and confidently in both large and small groups, when presenting a report, participating on panels, debating, or articulating judgments and opinions
- apply active listening skills in interpersonal settings
- read a wide range of materials purposefully, with comprehension and skill in critical inquiry
- be able to work collaboratively and independently
- increase their facility in any foreign language studied prior to college or attain a basic facility in a foreign language new to them

**Quantitative Reasoning**

Students will:

- interpret mathematical models such as formulae, graphs, tables, and schematics and draw inferences from them
- understand the applications and limits of quantitative data, and be able to recognize the appropriate use as well as the misuse of statistics
Critical Thinking

Students will be able to:

• define what an argument is
• distinguish argument from non-argument
• construct arguments consistent with best practices in a discipline
• gather information from many sources, including print and electronic media, and evaluate the relevance and veracity of the information
• communicate arguments both orally and in writing
• formulate constructive responses to criticism

Research/Information Literacy

Students will be able to:

• prepare “professional quality” written reports on scholarly topics of interest.
• gather appropriate background information on the topic
• access full text, abstracted, and multimedia information in both physical and electronic form
• assess the veracity of various sources of information
• understand the differences between popular and scholarly information as well as the differences among primary, secondary, and tertiary sources
• understand and apply scholarly norms regarding the appropriate citation and quotation of information sources
• prepare texts and accompanying graphics using a word processor and other appropriate software

Global and Cultural Awareness

Students will:

• understand issues and perspectives on race, class, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation
• understand the role of power and privilege in shaping human conditions
• appreciate the arts, history, commerce, politics, and philosophies of one’s culture and of cultures other than one’s own, and understand the similarities and differences among those cultures