

STEP-UP

University of South Carolina Upstate Quality Enhancement Plan

Executive Summary: Student Technology Enrichment Program at Upstate (STEP-UP)

The primary goal of the University of South Carolina Upstate's quality enhancement plan is to prepare its students to be ready to participate as responsible citizens in a diverse, global and knowledge-based society, to pursue excellence in their chosen careers and to continue to learn throughout life as we strive for a technology fluent campus.

STEP-UP is built around three strategies for creating a technology fluent campus:

1. An annual summer faculty development institute to deliver professional development for redesigning undergraduate courses to be technology intensive
2. Between five and seven newly designed technology intensive courses will be offered each semester for undergraduate students
3. An annual summer technology symposium will be held that features speakers, workshops, and symposia on existing and emerging technologies.

Through **STEP-UP**, graduates of USC Upstate will be able to demonstrate competent use of technology to gather information; Use technology to correctly process and analyze information; communicate information appropriately to others through technology; and understand and demonstrate ethical use of technology in gathering, processing, analyzing, and communicating information. The faculty development institute is the support needed for the participating faculty. Curricular challenges are tackled and new educational technology is introduced. Faculty evaluate past teaching and student learning related to the levels of technology integration into a technology intensive course. They also must understand the characteristics of a technology intensive course learning environment and how to move towards a goal directed transformative model of technology integration.

The technology intensive courses must include a final student product or portfolio which is collected for evaluation using a faculty developed rubric. This rubric will include at least two (but not limited to) the following student learning outcomes:

1. Students will demonstrate competence in inquiry and critical consumption of information by using technology tools to gather information for completing the TI project.
2. Students will demonstrate competence with narration and curation by using technology tools to process and analyze information for completing the TI project
3. Students will demonstrate competence with collaboration, communication, and participation by using technology tools to communicate information in and about the TI project
4. Students will demonstrate an understanding of digital citizenship by the ethical use of technology in gather, processing, analyzing, and communicating information in and about the TI project.

The annual summer technology symposium will include discussions with the participating faculty and students as well as Upstate business and community participation. This event will showcase the campus through its journey to becoming technologically fluent.

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