

# Mission Focused Learning Standards with Best Practice Examples for Courses

Loma Linda University

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## MFL Standards for Programs and Courses

To further the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ "to make man whole," LLU's online programs and courses will:

1. Integrate faith in God and course content in appropriate, relevant and meaningful ways.
2. Orient and prepare students for lives of service, exemplifying LLU's core values.
3. Emphasize health and wholeness<sup>1</sup> informed by the Adventist perspective.

## Best Practice Examples Fulfill the MFL Standards for Courses

The MFL standards are required for programs and courses; however, the best practices for each standard are *meant to be examples* that inspire faculty to use as is or to develop their own.

1. **Integrate faith in God and course content in appropriate, relevant and meaningful ways.**
  - Include Biblical references or Scriptural passages with tools such as [BibleGateway.com](http://BibleGateway.com), text, videos, and narratives.
  - Reference spiritual experiences and stories from personal experience and Christian writers including Ellen White and other Christian writers, plus historical Adventist stories.
  - Incorporate or reference prayer in interactions with students through discussions, announcements, and Zoom conferences.
  - Develop discussions/conversations, self-assessment exercises, case studies, and other assignments that require implementing faith, LLU's vision, mission and/or values into the learning experience in as natural way as possible.
1. **Orient and prepare students for lives of service exemplifying LLU's core values.**
  - Exemplify the LLU values in interactions with students.
  - Strive to integrate one or more of LLU core values—JCHIEFS<sup>2</sup>—into each course.
  - Give stories or case studies of how a specific value is exemplified.
  - Have students watch videos focused on the course topic and have students reflect, discuss, and apply what they learned in it. "[A Certain Kind of Light: What would we hear if we really listened?](#)" is a video that would be appropriate for many health care courses.
  - Provide scriptural verses/passages, philosophies, contemporary quotes, etc., addressing the core value being taught.
  - Assign student journals with self-reflections about how the course impacts student life. (Video or text-based format).
  - Share students' experiences in service, such as: [A Pioneer's Life for Me](#).
  - Ensure that online students understand that they may participate in [LLU SIMS](#) trips. They can also find local opportunities to serve in their own communities similar to [LLU CAPS](#) opportunities.

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<sup>1</sup> **LLU Wholeness:** Loved by God, growing in health, living with purpose in community

<sup>2</sup> **LLU Core Values: JCHIEFS** – Justice, Compassion, Humility, Integrity, Excellence, Freedom, Self-control/purity

3. **Emphasize health and wholeness<sup>11</sup> informed by the Adventist perspective.**
- Keep wholeness in mind when selecting learning activities (journal, videos, resources, etc.)
  - Encourage healthy life-style practices (work-life balance, rest, vegetarianism, exercise, developing and maintaining relationships).
  - Present and discuss the latest credible scientific studies/research on healthy practices such as [Paper explores global influence of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on diet](#).
  - Promote awareness of mental health (depression, anxiety, suicide), connecting students to resources, and encouraging hope.
  - Invite prayer requests and have prayer (phone, videoconference, text-based discussion board), etc., share a meaningful prayer.
  - Use community-applied learning activities (service-learning, community outreach, family and workplace) in the spirit of LLU's mission.
  - Provide online communities and social media spaces (for interactions around impacts in life, prayer, coaching, inspiring each other).
  - Encourage or require students to view online University@Worship services (Wednesdays and recorded sessions). There may be opportunities for online students to participate in live University@Worship services, such as giving prayer, via Zoom. If interested, contact the LLU online chaplain: [K.C. Hohensee](#). Provide discussion/reflection opportunities.
  - Provide links to selected external Seventh-day Adventist resources in areas of health, family relations, spiritual life, etc.

### **MFL Resource Library to be Published in Every Online Course**

This library would include many resources including the following:

- Bible-centered video clips, verses, stories, worship thought, devotionals ([www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com))
- Ellen G. White - selected quotes from her inspired writings ([www.whiteestate.org](http://www.whiteestate.org), <https://egwwritings.org>)
- Seventh-day Adventist Health Heritage (stories, ideas, tips, experiences, resources) (<http://www.adventistheritage.org/article/136/resources/pioneer-stories>)
- [History of Loma Linda University: The Pioneers](#)
- LLU missionary stories, community experiences. New School of Dentistry book of stories will be coming out about how alumni have lived LLU values, experience, and education. School of Medicine has two devotional books: [Morning Rounds](#) and [Evening Rounds](#).
- [LLU 360 videos](#)
- Inspirational stories