

Commission for General Education

The Commission for General Education was established in 2005. Its purpose is to provide a common foundation for students' specialized education and it emphasizes student-centered learning performance and responsibility. Established under the Commission are a level-one teaching unit, the General Education Center, and two level-two units, the Language Center and the Physical Education Center.

Vision

1. To develop students' interests and potential as well as to improve their critical thinking ability.
2. To enhance students' interpersonal skills and language and communicative abilities with an international perspective.
3. To improve students' cultural literacy and their understanding and respect for cultural diversity.
4. To cultivate students' understanding in the nature and significance of life.
5. To encourage students to put in practice the concepts of environmental sustainability and care for the Earth.
6. To cultivate students' secondary expertise in order to improve their prospects for employment and their competitiveness.

General Education Center

Established in 1998, the General Education Center represents the continuation of the ideals of "liberal arts education" in Ancient Greece and the well-rounded education advocated during the Renaissance period. The Center aims to help students achieve balance between physical and mental pursuits and between knowledge and personality, as well as the ability to think in a general manner. Courses offered by the Center are consistent with the University's general development trends. A systematic approach is employed to provide courses and programs that stress both theory and practice. Another focus is the cultivation of second skills to improve students' prospects for employment and competitiveness.

The space allocated for the Center for teaching purposes is mainly the North Gallery, which includes 5 general classrooms and one for conducting painting classes. Classrooms for professional training, such as a rhythmic body movement classroom and a documentary editing room, are also available. There are also 8 faculty research rooms, which are located at the 3rd floor of the Building of Computer Information and Library. The Center has acquired library resources and purchased various types of instructional media and equipment over the past few years in order to accommodate the requirements of teaching activities in each discipline.

In keeping pace with the globalization trend of the 21st century, the University's general education curriculum is increasingly being organized as education programs. For example, the Performing Arts program and the TNNUA Banzhuhua Theatre were introduced in 2008 to remedy for the absence of a dance or drama department at the University. With the creation of the community empowerment and environmental ecology program, community building is fostered with topophilia and humanistic spirit. It helps students to establish a value system that expresses concern and love for their homeland, which

will ultimately lead to the fulfillment of environmental sustainability objectives. The introduction of the legal, political and economic program familiarizes students with the principles of political governance and economic operations, which enable them to enhance their perspectives on global economic and political developments. The program cultivates talents with democratic character and global perspectives.

Language Center

The Center was established in 2002. As the University did not have a Liberal Arts college, a Chinese Language department or Foreign Languages department, language-related and literature courses as well as instructors in these areas were rather inadequate. The creation of the Language Center helped to alleviate this problem by bringing together language instructors within and external to the University and providing students with a channel and resources for continuing education apart from the University's formal language courses. The mission of the Center is to shape a regular and accessible language learning environment and to induce students' interest in language learning, as well as to provide training to students in expressing their individual artistic views in various domestic and international art exhibitions and academic venues. In order to achieve these objectives the Center offers additional short-term foreign language courses, book clubs and lectures during the semester and in winter and summer vacation breaks, and it also organizes language-related competitions from time to time.

Physical Education Center

Established in 2010, the Physical Education Center is charged with the responsibility of conducting physical education courses, organizing sports activities and managing sports facilities. The objective is to enhance the quality of the University's physical education teaching and activities, promote the physical well-being of students and faculty alike, as well as improving their knowledge in sports developing exercise habits. With the goal of "improving participation in sports and exercise within the campus and creating a culture of exercise," the Center has designed and promoted physical activities for the both faculty and students for the purposes of cultivating the spirit of teamwork and harmonious interpersonal relationships, as well as developing satisfactory social behavior, planning sports facilities that conform to standards and safety regulations, providing a safe and comfortable exercise environment, promoting physical fitness education, establishing the concepts of health and lifelong exercise habits, and cultivating physical and mental health and energetic individuals.