# WHY ARE YOU IN COLLEGE?

Students enroll at Northland College for many reasons. Clarifying why you are in college will help you understand what is important to you and will allow you to set short-term and long-term goals. Examining your expectations of college will help you plan ahead more realistically and help make the experience as successful and fulfilling as possible.

This worksheet is a tool to help you identify your academic, personal, and career expectations and set short- and long-term goals. For each section below, please rank the statements as to how important they are to you at this time.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. ACADEMIC GOALS: | Very Important | Important | Not Important |
| To take courses with interesting and stimulating content |  |  |  |
| To have exciting, highly qualified teachers |  |  |  |
| To learn for the sake of learning |  |  |  |
| To receive special help from my instructors when I need it |  |  |  |
| To choose a major that will be interesting and suit my abilities |  |  |  |
| To improve my ability to think and reason |  |  |  |
| To become proficient in study skills |  |  |  |
| To broaden my intellectual interests |  |  |  |
| To get good grades |  |  |  |
| To become knowledgeable about important social, economic, and political issues |  |  |  |
| To receive fairness in assignments and grading |  |  |  |
| To learn how to use the library effectively |  |  |  |
| Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |  |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2. PERSONAL GOALS: | Very Important | Important | Not Important |
| To become independent of my family |  |  |  |
| To participate in sports and physical exercise |  |  |  |
| To make life-long friends |  |  |  |
| To become involved in student activities; e.g., student government or clubs/organizations |  |  |  |
| To participate in recreational and social activities on campus |  |  |  |
| To learn how to become an effective leader |  |  |  |
| To have comfort and privacy where I live |  |  |  |
| To make my family proud of me |  |  |  |
| To find a future spouse/partner |  |  |  |
| To be able to make good decisions |  |  |  |
| To manage my time effectively |  |  |  |
| Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |  |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 3. CAREER GOALS: | Very Important | Important | Not Important |
| To take courses that lead directly to an occupational field |  |  |  |
| To prepare for a career that will allow me to be creative |  |  |  |
| To get help in exploring my interests and abilities |  |  |  |
| To explore a variety of career areas before deciding on one |  |  |  |
| To learn the skills necessary to find a good entry job when I graduate |  |  |  |
| To prepare myself for a certain lifestyle |  |  |  |
| To use my education to help solve the world's problems |  |  |  |
| To prepare for graduate school |  |  |  |
| To be successful in my field after I graduate |  |  |  |
| To make a great deal of money |  |  |  |
| To receive a broad liberal education that will prepare me for many career options |  |  |  |
| To find work that will give me feeling of accomplishment |  |  |  |
| Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |  |  |  |

It is important to learn to set realistic goals for yourself, both in the short-term, and for the future. In the spaces below, write statements of what you hope to accomplish at Northland College in the academic, personal, and career areas during your first semester, first year, and over four years.

**ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENT GOALS:**

First Semester:

First Year:

Four Years:

**PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT GOALS:**

First Semester:

First Year:

Four Years:

**CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENT GOALS:**

First Semester:

First Year:

Four Years: