



## Vision Statement

Columbia College empowers our students to change the world with Courage for Innovation, Commitment to Social Justice, Confidence through Service, and Competence in Leadership

## Implementing the Vision for Students and for the College

Aligning the Vision with the College's unique 4 C's (Courage, Commitment, Confidence and Competence) and our historic emphasis on innovation, social justice, service and leadership, the chart below describes how the Vision Statement will guide the education of our students and the priorities and performance of the College.

Vision Component	Impact on Students	Impact on the College
Courage for Innovation	Courage is a willingness to be immersed in academic pursuits despite fear, to approach learning as critical thinking, to be creative and disciplined in their studies, to be open to innovative ways to learn and to apply their learning in real life situations. Courage is the recognition and acceptance of personal risk in pursuit of the goal of completing a degree, particularly a goal reflecting moral and ethical character as a graduate.	The College will design the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Liberal Arts Curriculum that integrates the knowledge (humanities, arts, sciences and social sciences), skills (critical thinking, analytical, problem solving, synthesis and change management), values (integrity, social justice and advocacy), and career preparation (coursework, internships, mentoring) to ensure our graduates achieve success in their careers as well as meaning and purpose in their lives.
Commitment to Social Justice	As students enter their sophomore year, commitment describes the process of exploring communities, examining values and goals, and choosing among them. Commitment is the development of a focus, of a personal theme that will define the direction of future motivation. In academic courses and co-curricular activities, students will learn and practice the College's central commitment to Social Justice.	The College will model social justice in how it operates, how it interacts with its constituencies, and how it advocates for social justice in the world. We believe social justice is the unbiased distribution of resources and opportunities through advocacy and collaborative actions that support basic human rights and dignity for all.
Confidence through Service	Confidence brings to bear the knowledge and skills that have been acquired in the first two years of general education and becomes a form of motivation that goes beyond courage. As students take courses in their majors and concentrations, become more engaged in community service, and start internships, they do so with confidence. They pursue these higher order thinking challenges with the assurance that they have the courage, commitment and confidence	The College will serve the Eau Claire neighborhood, North Columbia area, City of Columbia and the Midlands through relevant academic programs that help meet workforce needs and enhance economic development, internships and volunteer efforts to improve the quality of life of all citizens with special emphasis on those who are marginalized, and programs on campus, in the community and at workplaces that address the need for Social Justice and promote collaborative leadership.

	<p>to master the material and translate knowledge into service to academic excellence, to the campus community and to the communities beyond the campus.</p>	
<p>Competence in Leadership</p>	<p>As students prepare to graduate, their senior year academic courses and student activities focus on empowerment, applying the lessons learned from courage, commitment and confidence to ready them for life after Columbia College. The transition to a career or graduate school requires self-reflection and synthesis of knowledge gained, skills acquired and insights from experiences into a grounded and coherent collaborative leadership style to help change the world and improve the human condition.</p>	<p>The College will be an agent for change through its innovative 21<sup>st</sup> Century Liberal Arts Curriculum, its advocacy for Social Justice, its service to the Midlands, and its model of Collaborative Leadership.</p>