



Orientation to AU Online: Aurora University's History, Mission, and Values

Aurora University's History, Mission, and Values

Introduction

Welcome to the orientation to AU Online! We're excited that you'll be taking courses with AU Online, and we want you to have a transformative learning experience.

In this lesson, you'll have the opportunity to learn more about Aurora University so that you are able to discuss its history, mission, and values. As you learn about the university, consider how the university has changed, grown, and remained student centered.



At the end of the lesson, you will have the chance to do a self-check to review and apply what you learned. You'll even have the chance to consider how you will actualize those values as part of your educational, professional, and personal journeys.

Upon completion of this lesson, you will be able to:

- Trace the history of Aurora University.
- Identify the mission of Aurora University.
- Recognize Aurora University's values.

The History and Mission of Aurora University

The history and mission of Aurora University may be found on the university's website.

To review the history and mission of Aurora University, click this link: [About Aurora University - Mission and History](#).

Campuses and Educational Centers

As part of its growth, Aurora University has expanded from the main campus to Orchard Center, Woodstock, and George Williams College. AU Online supports all of these locations.

To learn more about our locations, click this link: [About Aurora University - Locations](#).

Core Values

Aurora University draws upon the rich legacies of Aurora College and George Williams College to welcome learners to our campuses in Illinois and Wisconsin and online. Here all become members of an inclusive education community dedicated to the development of mind, body, and spirit. Today, as in the past, we prize the twin virtues of character and scholarship and affirm our commitment to the values of integrity, citizenship, continuous learning, and excellence.

- **Integrity:** We will adhere to the highest standards of integrity in every aspect of institutional practice and operations. Through this proven dedication to honesty, respect,

fairness, and ethical conduct, we will lead by example and inspire our students to do the same.

- **Citizenship:** We will exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in an educational community, founded upon the principles of mutual respect and open discourse. We will live within our means and manage our resources wisely, while creating an environment that fosters teamwork and promotes service to others.
- **Continuous Learning:** We will work and live as an organization devoted to continuous learning. We recognize that the university exists in a diverse and changing world and know that we will succeed in helping students achieve their full potential only if we realize our own. We seek a growth process that is never-ending
- **Excellence:** We will pursue excellence by embracing quality as a way of community life. Accordingly, we will set high expectations for ourselves, our students, and our university and will work together to attain them.

The University's core values are the foundation upon which our aspirations rest. They undergird our belief in the transformative power of learning. As members of the Aurora University community, we enter into a voluntary compact with one another to live, learn, and work in ways consistent with these ideals.

Check Your Understanding

Review what you learned by completing the following activities. Although these are optional and not graded, we encourage you to participate to practice and apply the lesson material.

Question #1

1. In what year was Aurora University founded?
 - a. 1893
 - b. 1985
 - c. 1884
 - d. 1992

Correct Answer: Aurora University was founded in Mendota, Illinois, in 1893.

Review the link about Aurora's History and Mission to learn more about the history of the university.

Question #2

2. Identify Aurora's mission statement from the list below.
 - a. An inclusive community dedicated to the transformative power of learning.
 - b. An inclusive community dedicated to the transformation of mind, body, and spirit.
 - c. An inclusive community dedicated to character and scholarship.
 - d. An inclusive community dedicated to the values of integrity, citizenship, continuous learning, and excellence.

Correct Answer: Aurora University's mission statement is "an inclusive community dedicated to the transformative power of learning."

Be sure to review the lesson again to familiarize yourself with the university's mission statement and purpose.

Question #3

3. Match each of Aurora's core values to a student-focused actualization of the value.

A. Building skills and knowledge by signing up for a course at your local library.	___	Integrity
B. Volunteering time and skills to a community project.	___	Citizenship
C. Providing transparent communication in the workplace so that team members are never surprised by project delays or roadblocks.	___	Continuous Learning
D. Modeling behaviors in the online classroom that help others to aspire to higher levels of achievement.	___	Excellence

Correct Answer: Integrity can be demonstrated by providing transparent communication in the workplace so that team members are never surprised by project delays or roadblocks. Citizenship can be demonstrated by volunteering time and skills to a community project. Continuous learning can be demonstrated by building skills and knowledge by signing up for a course at your local library. Excellence can be demonstrated by modeling behaviors in the online classroom that help others to aspire to higher levels of achievement.

Review the information in the lesson and think about how you, another student, or an instructor might demonstrate Aurora University's core values.

Optional Activity

Learn what our alumni are saying about Aurora University!

- 1 Go to the main Aurora University YouTube page:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/aurorauniversity>
- 2 Scroll down to the [Storytellers](#) section.
- 3 Explore videos from AU alumni.

Summary

Congratulations! You completed this lesson and are now familiar with Aurora University's history, mission, and values.