Valuing in Decision Making
Fun Challenges: #AbilitiesInAction

**Valuing in Decision Making**
Engage moral issues by understanding the many dimensions of personal decisions and taking responsibility for choices.

#AbilitiesInAction: Challenge yourself, fellow students, faculty and staff, friends and neighbors to engage in one or more of the following ability challenges! Feel free to initiate a challenge, create teams or find a partner. The purpose is to dive in and experience this ability in action. Document and share using #AbilitiesInAction!

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**#AbilitiesInAction Challenges:**

- Write your personal mission statement.
- Ask yourself: What is your “Why?” Why do you do what you do? What motivates you to succeed and what values are attributed to your motivations?
- Analyze the ethics of sharing food — examine cultural differences and social norms and values.
- Investigate the ethics of social media stalking in today’s digital age.
- Ponder the ethics of social media activism.
- What is the morality of cancel culture? Examine the cultural and societal factors.
- What are the ethics of artificial intelligence and advancing tech in today’s world?
- Discuss holiday traditions and values that underline them.
- How do values impact health decisions?
- Analyze how your values impact your career pathway decision.
- What are your values in relationships?
- Examine your values in terms of your fashion choices.
- What values do you consider when choosing where and how to travel?
- What values affect your gift-giving decisions?
- Think about your sustainability efforts in terms of your environmental, social and economic views.
- Discuss ethical risk — open forum, small groups, themes, question of the week.
- Play Monopoly, but change the social structure. (socialist, industrial, cheaters, etc.)
- When making a big decision, ask for input from a team member, friend or neighbor.

In each of these examples, challenge yourself to analyze valuing as part of the decision-making process, and how your decisions align with personal beliefs and priorities. Remain thoughtful, lighthearted, fun and impactful based on the spectrum of serious to fun considerations.
Effective Citizenship
Make informed choices and develop strategies for collaborative involvement in community issues.

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#AbilitiesInAction Challenges:
- Organize a community cleanup event. (small or large!)
- Offer to cut a neighbor’s lawn, shovel a walk or help with yardwork.
- Is there an organization or cause that could benefit from the gift of your time?
- Volunteer at a local non-profit with a group or as an individual.
- Gather a team or be a participant in a charity run/walk. Organize an Alverno Homecoming Walk to benefit a local charity!
- Voting: register, set up a “practice” voting/polling opportunity on campus to get into the practice of voting. Create change by encouraging others to vote!
- Perform random acts of kindness to make a positive impact on your community.
  - Leave kind notes for neighbors.
  - Pay for someone’s coffee behind you in line.
- Babysit for a classmate for free.
- Organize a potluck! It could be for a floor or departments. Invite students!
- Create a flash mob — a fun and creative way to bring attention to important issues.
- Have a clothing swap party — exchange items or donate to Goodwill or Career Studio.
- Host a game night fundraiser — invite friends to play games and charge donation fee to participate.
- Participate in a peaceful protest — a powerful way to voice opinions.
- Support local businesses with friends by creating positive posts on social media.
- Donate to charity.
- Offer to mentor or tutor young people to make a difference in their lives.
- Participate in a sponsored event at Alverno — volunteer to assist with set-up and activities.
- Food sort at local food bank or Hunger Task Force.
- Create a workshop on how to contact elected officials, run for office or serve on boards.
- Election year — create an area dedicated to education about candidates, voting info, etc.
- Volunteer for activity events at a retirement community.
- Create fall or spring term recognition event focusing on “Random Acts of Kindness.”
Social Interaction
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Social Interaction
Communicate interpersonally to effectively accomplish a task, build relationships, deepen understanding, develop others, manage conflict and reach a decision.

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#AbilitiesInAction Challenges:

- Host storytelling in the Commons.
- Have a zip code lunch or party for staff and faculty.
- Create a campus scavenger hunt.
  - Utilize social media (can you find...?)
- Host speed networking with a mix of faculty, staff and students. Create a theme!
- Create an Alverno escape room challenge.
- Have a campus olympics event.
  - Incorporate faculty, staff and students.
  - Create events that are knowledge, skill or goofy activity based.
- Host a trivia event at lunch time.
- Participate in an Alverno talent show for faculty, staff and students. Maybe a Talent Show Tuesday with an open mic?
- Create a campus-wide potluck or cultural exchange.
- Common connection: stage tables in the Commons for faculty, staff and students to sit based on common interests (“I love dogs” table, “I love pizza” table). Set a time and day.
- Create a walking club, book club or lunch club.
- Facilitate Employee Resource Groups — attend, create and engage. Encourage monthly meetings and invitations.
- Submit your profile for the Experts Page or to be featured on social media. Schedule your photo with Marketing in FO 232.
- Create hobby time in the Commons to learn something new. (crochet, knit, paint, etc.)
- Jigsaw puzzles in the commons — anyone can hop in to help put it together!
- Host a community block party — create a committee and plan for spring ’23 or fall ’24.
- Attend a Milwaukee community event with a friend.
Problem Solving
Fun Challenges: #AbilitiesInAction

Problem Solving
Define problems and integrate resources to reach decision, make recommendations or implement action plans.

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#AbilitiesInAction Challenges:

• Create a “Six Thinking Hat” problem solving team.
  • The “Six Thinking Hats” is a problem-solving technique developed by Edward de Bono that involves assigning different roles or perspectives to each member of a problem-solving team. Each person takes on a different “hat” to approach the problem from different angles. See more information here: https://www.mindtools.com/ajpp1e/six-thinking-hats
• Solve problems anonymously submitted via problem box or online submission.
• Create gamification activities with rewards and challenges.
• Write a letter to yourself as if you already solved a problem you have.
• Host a puzzle night — turn Alverno student artwork into a puzzle.
• Create mini conflict resolution sessions.
• Host a Five Minutes/Five Problems solutions free for all.
• Create a silent scavenger hunt to solve a problem.
• Host a game night for puzzle games like Sudoku or Crossword.
• Create ability-themed crossword puzzles.
• Develop a Jeopardy game using a template online.
• Create a problem-solving bingo game.
• Host an art heist — a virtual sleuthing game for team play
• Create an online escape room.
• Create treasure hunts. https://teambuilding.com/blog/scavenger-hunt-apps
• Combine abilities with moral challenges: ethical vs. factual challenges.
• Create a Hackathon! Participants have a set time to design and pitch a new product or solution (such as a new cafeteria food item).
• Have a spaghetti tower building contest (need uncooked spaghetti and mini marshmallows).
• Host a problem-solving challenge: “What would you do?” challenge of the week
• Team building problem-solving site: https://teambuilding.com/blog/problem-solving-games
Developing a Global Perspective

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Developing a Global Perspective
Understand, articulate and engage with the multilayered political, biological and cultural systems that shape issues of global dimensions.

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#AbilitiesInAction Challenges:

- Create a food passport: cook and eat different types of foods, whether ethnic or foods you’ve never tried, or try a meal at a restaurant you’ve never been to.
- Create a student collaborative culture event in the commons to represent your culture and things to know from food, dance, music, etc.
- Host an international potluck.
- Have a cultural show and tell.
- Create an international music jam or poetry slam.
- Develop a cultural crafts workshop.
- Start a global pen pal program and share letters.
- Have a language exchange with words of the day (posters in the commons)
  - “How do you say…?”
- Provide culture insights on greetings and conversation insights.
- Host an international game night, cultural trivia (Jeopardy) or international sports night. (cricket, bocce, etc.)
- Have an international dance party.
- Participate in a cultural movie night or film festival.
- Host an international fashion show.
- Study a “culture a week.” Note what you learned, compare likenesses/differences, create a poster for display in the Commons or near Main Street map!
- Look at the history of different cultures and how they communicate, thrive and make decisions.
- Travel abroad for education.
- Become an Alverno Ambassador — check in with Marketing and Communications to set up the opportunity.
- Take a tour of the Mother House Chapel.
- Attend the International Student Culture Days.
- Study different body languages from around the world.
- What does “Alverno” look like in different languages?
Communication
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Communication
Create meaning by connecting people, ideas and information.

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#AbilitiesInAction Challenges:

- Tell stories through emojis.
- What does “Alverno” look like in binary, braille or ASL?
- Try one-word story telling — use posters, index cards or Mad-Libs.
- Have a debate on Alverno topics or fun topics, such as:
  - 8 Abilities — What could be #9?
  - Which ability should change?
  - Letter grades or no letter grades?
  - Ketchup or mustard on a hotdog?
  - Is a hotdog a sandwich?
- Have a movie, book or art critique or feedback session.
- Host “Improv in the Commons.” (comedy, speeches, poems etc.)
- Sensory loss role play (sight, sound, speech) — sightless for a day, nonverbal for a day, etc.
- Have a non-verbal scavenger hunt.
- Participate in team drawing — one person draws while one explains what to draw.
- Host speed networking.
- Communication networking: use different types of communication to discuss a topic (i.e. topic gets chosen, use emojis to describe feelings about topic).
- Participate in an Alverno-X type talk competition.
- Learn a new language.
- Have a no-email day.
- Have a no-device day, week or month — no texting, must call! Or, use your words/voice day — challenge yourself not to text but to directly speak face-to-face or via phone to people. How many days can you go?
- Quantitative literacy: numeracy; learn how to interpret, create and communicate.
Analysis

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Analysis

Critical, independent thinking that uses data, experience, reason and expertise to form carefully considered judgements.

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#AbilitiesInAction Challenges:

• Advertising campaigns — analyze effectiveness, strategies and techniques used to persuade.
• Analyze TV or movie themes, characters and storylines.
• Social media trends — analyze current trends or viral challenges and the impact on society and culture. (poster sessions on different platforms)
• Book club book analysis.
• Cultural traditions — analyze cultural traditions and practices; examine origins and significance.
• Scientific research — methods and results.
• Historical events — examine perspectives and impact of events on society and culture.
• Debate in the Commons — Speed Debating.
• Real-world challenge — develop and analyze a solution.
• Image analysis challenge via campus TVs.
• Puzzle challenges in the Commons.
• “Analysis paralysis” simulation challenge. (how to overcome)
• Treasure hunt — analysis required.
• Analyze why a pop tune is fun to listen to.
Aesthetic Engagement
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Aesthetic Engagement
Integrate the intuitive dimensions of participation in the arts with broader social, cultural and theoretical frameworks.

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#AbilitiesInAction Challenges:

- Create a collaborative art project creation.
- Host a teach-and-learn about art interpretation.
- Bring together a committee to work on bringing Wisconsin regional and local bands to Alverno.
- Have an infographic design challenge — could use Alverno concepts such as the 8 Abilities or programs.
- Create sensory challenges — texture, fragrance, taste or sound.
- Use your creative writing skills to submit an article about the abilities to the AlverKNOW.
- Host a photo scavenger hunt using social media.
- Have a poetry writing challenge with weekly themes.
- Take a mindful campus walk — focus on architecture, art, how it fits or the creation of the art
- Have a music appreciation challenge in the Commons — improv music at lunch.
- Participate in a student and alum art showcase in the Commons.
- Reach out to local florists or gardeners for flower bulb donations to plant in Alverno flower beds.
- Create art in non-art disciplines: art in math for example.
- Host art challenges in the Commons: challenge themes (free hand), display interpretation.
- Create a song for each ability (like Schoolhouse Rock!) or one for all.
- Have a furniture-painting fundraiser — upcycle old furniture (tables/chairs). Teams or individuals can paint and auction off to the community.
- Select student art pieces to be turned into puzzles for sale or fundraiser.
- Decorate a dorm room — create a contest to raffle off a decorated dorm room for a fall ‘24 student.
- Design the next Community Day t-shirt.
- Alverno’s Got Talent! Create and plan a performance event.