STATEMENT OF PURPOSE (or Rationale)

The Problem
—problem/situation that curriculum is intended to address
—curriculum development arises out of desire to solve some practical problem

Needs of the Learner
—Values regarding the learner express conceptions of **what individual learners are like & what they need**
—Two variations in conceptions of learners:
—first one emphasizes education that **prepares the individual for achieving maximum social & economic success**
—second one **views individual needs and interests in terms of developing a well-balanced person**

Needs of the Society
—Societal values might involve **informed voting, environmental awareness, rapid social change, racial intolerance, uncontrolled technology**, etc.
—Values with respect to society concern conceptions of how individuals
—**can meet social responsibilities**
—**deal with social constraints**
—Societal values vary and may be directed toward
—**socialization**
—**preservation of the social order**
—**preparation for citizenship**

Value of the Subject Matter
—Values with respect to subject matter reflect
—**the way you are approaching a particular subject**
—**your conception of why that subject matter and that approach is significant enough to warrant a course**
—Rationale **may stress the importance of a particular topic or discipline**
—Rationale **should express the value of the subject matter to its particular audience**—What can this subject contribute to the education of young people who are not specializing in it?

The Educational Goal
—Rationale goals **should capsulize the intentions of the <u>course</u>**
—Goals **describe anticipated educational results**
—Educational goal must be **consistent with the planner's conception of the learner, the society, and the subject matter**
—Examples—**this course is designed; this course will provide, the purpose of this course**