Program Assessment Workshop

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Assessment Workshop

Agenda

1. What is assessment? Why do we assess?
2. Assessment plans
3. Assessment reports
4. How to create effective assessment measures
5. How to analyze and use results
Assessment Workshop

At the end of today’s session, you will be able to:

1. describe the components of an assessment report
2. name, describe and create common “direct” and “indirect” assessment measures
3. select appropriate pieces of learning evidence
4. identify possible reasons learning targets were not met
5. analyze your results and identify ways to use these results
If it isn’t broken……

LET’S MAKE IT BETTER!
What is Assessment?

**PLAN:** Develop clear learning objectives

**DO:** Offer courses, programs, student services

**CHECK:** Assess progress

**ACT:** Use results

**Collect:** data

Today’s Session

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Why Do We Assess?

1. Helps us know if we are doing what we are supposed to be doing.
2. Provides evidence that AUC is actively monitoring its progress towards its goals and achieving its mission.
3. Required by accreditation bodies.
4. Assessment results provide valuable information to help in decision-making.
Institution - Program Connection

- External Requirements
- Institutional LOs
- Program LOs
- Course LOs

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Assessment Cycle

Assessment Plans
Submitted once for every cycle (once every 6 years)

Year 1
Assessment Plans
Deadline March 1st

Year 2
Assessment Reports

Year 3
Assessment Reports

Year 4
Assessment Reports

Year 5
Assessment Reports

Year 6
Self-study & Program Review Reports
Self-Study & Program Review
According to schedule (aligned with department accreditation)

New Assessment Plan
Self-study, Program Review and annual assessment plans should inform new plan.

Deadline March 1st
Deadline October 18th

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What should the Assessment Plan include?

Mission statement
Program student learning outcomes
Learning opportunities
Assessment methods/ measures
Target levels/ benchmarks
When assessment will be conducted and reviewed

Essential part of analyzing results
What is an Assessment Report?

An action plan for implementing changes based on results

Evidence that results are used to improve, plan

A summary of assessment activities from the previous academic year

A summary of results from the previous academic year
CREATE ASSESSMENT MEASURES
Type of Assessment Measures

Direct
- Requires subjects to display their knowledge, behavior or thoughts
- Student products, behaviors
- Reveals what students know and can do

Indirect
- Requires subjects to reflect on their knowledge, behavior or thoughts
- Student perceptions, self reports
- Can reveal why and how students learned or didn’t learn
Activity 1

1. In pairs, take a look at the descriptions of the assessment measures mentioned in the table.
2. Match the descriptions to their correct assessment measures.
3. Write down whether the assessment measure is a direct or indirect measure of student learning.
4. Share with the group.
 WHICH DATA-COLLECTION METHODS CAN HELP ANSWER DIFFERENT ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS?

ACTIVITY 2

ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS:

1. Did students learn X, Y, & Z?
2. Can students do X (e.g., think critically, analyze data)?
3. How much do students "grow" from start of program to finish?
4. What do students think about X, Y, & Z?
5. What curriculum/ courses/pedagogy do our students experience?
6. What are alumni doing?
Why Aren’t Grades Enough?

1. Inconsistency between instructors teaching the same courses – non-standardized grading practices.
2. Grades may reflect student behaviors such as class participation, attendance, citizenship, extra credit, missed assignments, and other factors.
ANALYSIS & HOW TO USE RESULTS
What should you look for in your data?

- Change over time
- Achievement
- Difference between groups
- Any others?
- Effectiveness of assessment measures
- Reasons why targets are not met
- Maximize on good results
Possible Responses to Assessment results

1. No changes needed
2. Change in student learning outcome
3. Change in program (learning opportunities, sequence of courses, curriculum, etc.)
4. Change in assessment measures
Possible Reasons for not Achieving SLOs

**Alignment**

- Poor alignment
  - Assessment task ≠ rubric
  - Assessment task ≠ course activities
  - Course standards ≠ exit standards

**Curriculum**

- Insufficient opportunities, ineffective pedagogy
  - Opportunities to learn ≠
  - Expected level of oral performance
  - Instructional Methods

**Student Factors**

- Motivation, sample, transfer
  - Student motivation on the assessment task
  - Those who completed the task are not representative or too few in number
  - Transfer student
What should you do.....

**BEFORE collecting data/evidence?**
- Discuss “criteria for success”
- Consider possible ways results could be used

**AFTER getting results?**
- Involve the department in discussing the results and deciding what improvements are needed
- Create an improvement plan
What do you need to do to complete your Assessment Report?

**Results**
Briefly explain the results of your conducted assessment in a clear and concise manner.

**Analysis**
Briefly summarize the data analysis and use of results. Write out a well-reasoned description of your conclusions based on the data by explaining the significance and impact of the results.

**Action Plan**
Briefly summarize the actions for improvement. Describe what decisions need to be made, next steps that will be taken during the following academic year, and explain how the results are being used to inform unit changes.
Assessment Plan
Activity 4

1. Write down one LO from your program.
2. What assessment measures was/can be used to assess that LO?
3. Did these measures provide enough evidence to assess your learning outcome? Explain.
4. What is your response to the results?
5. Is there an existing venue for the program to deliver and discuss results? Explain.
6. What’s one thing you might try next semester?
Remember!
Program Assessment Report Deadline

• Submit assessment reports on Compliance Assist

Oct. 18
Planning and Assessment Software

Compliance Assist
Thank you!

Please don’t hesitate to contact me for any questions.
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