ACE Assessment Digest
OFFICE OF ASSESSMENT FOR CURRICULAR EFFECTIVENESS

ACE Assessment Digest | September 2021

In this issue:

Fall Welcome and Return of ACE Assessment Digest

As the fall semester moves into full swing, we look forward to opportunities to support your work on program-level assessment of student learning.

We're also pleased to announce the return of the *ACE Assessment Digest*. The *ACE Assessment Digest* (formerly the *ATL Assessment Digest*) is a bite-sized email, sent twice a semester, intended to communicate news and resources to help WSU undergraduate academic programs implement good program assessment practices and leverage available resources. The *ACE Assessment Digest* was on hold for AY2020-21, in line with President Schulz' 8/27/20 message, to reduce the number of emails received by faculty and leadership. An archive of past issues of the ACE Assessment Digest is available on the ACE website.

Transitions in the Faculty Assessment Coordinator Role in Your Department, School, or Program

If you are no longer serving in the Faculty Assessment Coordinator role for an undergraduate degree, or are aware of personnel changes in the Faculty Assessment Coordinator role, for your department, school, or program, please let us know at ace.office@wsu.edu.

WSU Expectations and Guidance for AY2021-22 Undergraduate Program Assessment

This academic year, WSU recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic context & impacts remain fluid and unpredictable, and that faculty, staff & students continue to manage concerns at work and home. Below are expectations and guidance for undergraduate program assessment this academic year, developed in discussion with the Provost's Office and the Liaison Council for Undergraduate Assessment (with representation from colleges and campuses offering undergraduate degrees).

For AY 2021-22, undergraduate degree programs are expected to:

1. Submit their 2021 program assessment report during the open reporting window – anytime from mid-Dec 2021 through Feb 2022.
2. Conduct some program-level assessment related activities, where possible, after taking into account program context and pressing questions.

See the full guidance on the ACE website.

WSU-wide Summary of 2020 Undergraduate Degree Program Assessment Reports Available

Over the summer, we review data from the undergraduate assessment reports submitted by programs and produce summaries for WSU, college, and campus leadership, as well as for our university-wide archives that provide evidence of assessment activities in support of university accreditation. In August, we provided Interim Vice Provost for Academic Engagement and Student Achievement Bill Davis with the 2020 WSU-wide Summary of Undergraduate Degree Program Assessment Reports. See the ACE website for more information and the summary.

We extend appreciation to all faculty and chairs/directors who have invested time in program assessment activities, as well as into annual program assessment reporting, especially during a difficult year.

2020 WSU Examples of Use of Program Assessment to Inform Decision-Making

WSU undergraduate degree programs are responsible for regularly using assessment to support decision-making related to curriculum, instruction, assignments, and program assessment processes. Each year, we compile selected examples of how WSU programs in various disciplines have used assessment to inform decisions, as reported in the annual undergraduate degree program assessment reports. The examples, like the annual program reports themselves, look at key or representative activities and uses, and are not intended to be exhaustive or show all uses of assessment results by WSU programs.

WSU Program Assessment Case Studies Complimented by NWCCU Mid-Cycle Peer Evaluators

In April 2021, the remote accreditation evaluation team for WSU's NWCCU Mid-Cycle Evaluation visit met with a broad representation of institutional leaders. As part of the visit, peer evaluators met representatives from two selected program assessment case studies: The Department of Human Development and the University Common Requirements General Education Program (UCORE). The evaluators were impressed with the comprehensive, well-coordinated, and collaborative assessment infrastructure in place for these two programs.

FYI – Calendar of Fall 2021 Dates Related to Program Assessment

Month	Date	Activity
Aug	Early Aug	Spring 2021 [CAPS] instructors receive a pdf copy of their [CAPS] Assessment Report for UCORE from UCORE via email. *Note: Typically, assessment in a CAPS course for majors can contribute toward degree program level assessment of student learning – contact us for more information.*
	23rd	First day of instruction for the term.
Sept	21st	Deadline for undergraduate students to drop a course without record.
	Late Sept	Fall 2021 [CAPS] instructors receive an email from UCORE with initial information about [CAPS] Assessment Reporting for UCORE for the fall term.
Oct	1st	Fall submission deadline for major Curricular Change Requests for new and revised courses & new and revised requirements.
Nov	1st	Program assessment coordinators receive an email from ACE with information about 2021 Undergraduate Program Assessment Reporting, including the report planning sheet. ACE is also available to help assessment coordinators complete the report; contact us for additional information.
	19th	Deadline for undergraduate students to withdraw from a course.
Dec	Early Dec	Fall 2021 [CAPS] instructors receive their link to the [CAPS] Assessment Reporting for UCORE form in Qualtrics via email (i.e., reporting opens).
	10th	Last day of instruction for the term.
	Mid Dec	Program assessment coordinators receive an email from ACE with a unique link to their 2021 Undergraduate Program Assessment Reporting form in Qualtrics. Assessment coordinators can submit their report during the open reporting window — anytime from mid-Dec 2021 through Feb 2022.
	21st	Final grade submission ends.
Jan	7th	Fall 2021 [CAPS] Assessment Reports for UCORE are due (i.e., reporting closes).

ACE Support for Program Assessment Efforts

We work with colleges and programs to assess student learning towards the improvement of undergraduate degree programs. ACE also provides assessment support for university-wide undergraduate education, serving all colleges, campuses, and UCORE general education. See What We Do for more information, including our mission.