ACE Assessment Digest
OFFICE OF ASSESSMENT FOR CURRICULAR EFFECTIVENESS

ACE Assessment Digest | January 2022

In this issue:

Program Assessment Spotlight: Efficient Assessment of Senior Majors – Aligning Grading Rubrics with Program Learning Outcomes (Neuroscience)

An effective system of assessing student learning includes measures at the senior level, near graduation, providing information about what students are able to achieve at the end of the program. For many undergraduate programs, senior-level direct measures connect with a culminating course where students demonstrate skills and knowledge in their chosen academic field.

For the Neuroscience program, *NEUROSCI 490: Senior Project* is a culminating course where senior majors demonstrate skills and knowledge in final oral presentations of their semester-long research projects. Worth 20% of the course grade, these presentations also provide direct assessment for the Neuroscience program on its program-level student learning outcomes. Dr. Samantha Gizerian, who teaches this course, has designed a grading rubric and the following three-step process to streamline the collection of senior-level achievement data for use in program-level assessment. » Read More …

Assessment Data Analysis Toolkit: Resources for Creating Visual Displays of Rubric Data

Our Assessment Data Analysis Toolkit includes resources intended to help WSU programs and faculty consider strategies for summarizing and presenting program assessment data collected from the evaluation of student work with a rubric, including our:

- Quick Guide to Summarizing and Displaying Program Assessment Data from Student Work Evaluated with a Rubric
- Excel Template for Creating Visual Displays of Rubric Data

We are also available to collaborate with undergraduate degree programs on the creation of visual displays of assessment data to engage faculty in discussions of assessment results; contact us for additional information.

Reminder: 2021 Undergraduate Degree Program Assessment Reporting Window Open

WSU undergraduate degree programs are responsible for reporting annually on program-level assessment, submitting a report during the open reporting window — **anytime from mid-December 2021 through February 2022**. Undergraduate programs will again use Qualtrics to submit their 2021 annual report about program assessment conducted during the 2021 calendar year (Jan 1 – Dec 31) and program assessment coordinators received emails from ace.office@wsu.edu in mid-December with unique links to access the Qualtrics form.

For general information and resources related to annual reporting, visit our Annual Program Assessment Reporting webpages. We are also available to help assessment coordinators complete the report; contact us for additional information.

Reporting Program Assessment Activities in Activity Insight for Faculty Annual Review

WSU's faculty manual provides recognition for faculty participation in assessment in the annual review process, as part of Teaching or Service accomplishments, depending on the activity. This aligns with the university's EPPM policies on assessment, which include recognizing assessment work in annual review at all levels.

Activity Insight continues to include drop-down menus and built-in prompts for assessment activities connected to teaching and curriculum in the *Teaching/Mentoring* section, as well as the ability to report work coordinating assessment and serving on related committees in the *Service* section. For more information, see our 2020 blog about reporting program assessment activities in Activity Insight.

Linda Suskie's Seven Characteristics of Good Rubrics

When considering the quality of a rubric for use in program-level assessment, it's important to consider the entire rubric assessment process— including the assignment given to students, the circumstances under which students complete the assignment, the rubric, the scoring procedure, and the usability of the results. For more information, see Linda Suskie's blog with seven characteristics of good rubrics.

FYI – Calendar of Spring 2022 Dates Related to Program Assessment

Month	Date	Activity
Dec	**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**. ACE is also available to help assessment coordinators complete the report; contact us for additional information.
Jan	7th	Fall 2021 [CAPS] Assessment Reports for UCORE are due (i.e., reporting closes).
	10th	First day of instruction for the spring term.
Feb	1st	Spring submission deadline for major Curricular Change Requests for new and revised courses.
	Early Feb	Fall 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 – see our resource related to [CAPS] Assessment Reporting for UCORE as part of degree program assessment.*
	8th	Deadline for undergraduate students to drop a course without record.
	Late Feb	Spring 2022 [CAPS] instructors receive an email from UCORE with initial information about [CAPS] Assessment Reporting for UCORE for the spring term.
	28th	2021 Undergraduate Program Assessment Reports are due (i.e., reporting closes). Assessment coordinators (or another knowledgeable assessment contact) need to be available to answer questions **until March 31**.
April	15th	Deadline for undergraduate students to withdraw from a course.
	Mid to Late April	Each program will receive a PDF copy of their final 2021 Undergraduate Program Assessment Report from ACE for their continued use and archive.
	Late April	Spring 2022 [CAPS] instructors receive their link to the [CAPS] Assessment Reporting for UCORE form in Qualtrics via email (i.e., reporting opens).
	29th	Last day of instruction for the term.
May	10th	Final grade submission ends.
	13th	Spring 2022 [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.