



# **UNIVERSITY ASSESSMENT ASSESSMENT PLAN GUIDELINES: PROGRAM OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

Program outcomes assessment is the process of gathering, analyzing, and interpreting data on student learning and development for the purpose of evaluating educational impact and improving programs. Program outcomes assessment is implemented at the program (typically degree) level.

Every OSU degree program must have an assessment plan that describes expected student learning outcomes for the degree program and the methods used to evaluate student achievement of those outcomes. The assessment plan should be updated periodically and is the roadmap for implementing assessment. Programs are expected to develop annual reports that describe the results from the implementation of this plan.

Please use the template below to create your assessment plan.

## **A. Program Name**

List the name of the department and college, list the degree(s) included.

## **B. Assessment Coordinator**

Please provide the name of the Assessment Coordinator (the name of the author of the plan) and the date the plan was approved by program faculty.

## **C. Mission Statement**

Give the mission statement for the program. The mission statement should align with department, college, and institutional mission statements. The mission statement, educational objectives and goals for program should guide the assessment process.

## **D. Student Learning Outcomes**

List the primary student learning outcomes that state what do faculty members expect students will know and be able to do upon degree completion. A program may have many expected outcomes; please provide 3-5 statements of assessable student learning outcomes that program faculty members believe to be most important. You may include more than five if you believe they are essential for your program or if your accreditation process requires more. However, the most important outcomes should be listed first, and it is expected that reported assessment activity will reflect the relative importance of various outcomes.

## **E. Assessment Methods**

Describe the methods used to gather evidence of student achievement of the student learning outcomes. If you plan to use multiple measures for one outcome, please describe all methods. If one method will be used to assess multiple outcomes, please list that method for all expected outcomes it will be used to assess. Programs should strive to use direct measures of

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student learning (e.g., performance assessment, exams, certification tests, faculty review of selected artifacts, etc.). Indirect measures (e.g., satisfaction surveys, etc.) can be included as supporting evidence but should not be the primary assessment method for an outcome.

Note that the University Assessment and Testing office regularly administers surveys of alumni and satisfaction surveys of graduate students. Please contact the University Assessment and Testing office for the most recent results.

#### **F. Timeline**

Indicate the timeline for implementation of each assessment method. This section can be incorporated with section E if desired. Student learning outcomes assessment must occur every year. However, not all student learning outcomes must be assessed every year. If there is to be a rotation between different learning outcomes this process must be described and justified.

#### **G. Use of Results**

Describe how assessment results will be used to improve the program. Describe the individual(s) or committee (e.g., a curriculum committee) responsible for using assessment data to make program improvements. Describe the process for sharing assessment results with program faculty members and for implementing program improvements based on faculty members' interpretations of the assessment data.