

Faculty Assessment Guide

Student Learning Assessment Definition: We assess student learning in the classroom at the University of Kentucky (UK) by measuring to what extent students meet predetermined learning outcomes. Assessment's purpose is to enhance the student learning process and inform instructors on how well students are meeting program and other institution wide student learning outcomes; assessment does not evaluate the instructor's performance in the classroom. Assessment is conducted through general education (UK Core), PSLOs (Program Student Learning Outcomes), periodic academic program review, and other assessment activities.

Student Learning Assessment's Value:

- Allows faculty to reflect on their pedagogy practices and further enhance their teaching by determining which learning outcomes students meet and which areas may need additional support
- Compares UK Core, 10 Essential Skills/Wildcat Workforce, and other areas of student learning across campus
- Displays the great work we do at UK to Kentucky's Council on Postsecondary Education and our regional accreditor

Assessment Resources:

Faculty have several resources to help them in their assessment work. The Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness provides online resources explaining the different types of assessment conducted at UK and how to successfully conduct them (see second page for additional information). Faculty may also consider perusing the following resources:

Fulcher, K. H., Good, M. R., Coleman, C. M., & Smith, K. L. (2014, December). A simple model for learning improvement: Weigh pig, feed pig, weigh pig. *National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment* (Occasional Paper #23). Retrieved from <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED555526.pdf>

Massa, L. J., & Kasimatis, M. (2017). *Meaningful and manageable program assessment: A how-to guide for higher education faculty*. Routledge. <https://doi-org.ezproxy.uky.edu/10.4324/9781003445968>

Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness

Mission: The mission of the Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness (OSPIE) is to foster a culture of evidence and continuous improvement. We do this through student learning assessment, planning, and accreditation and compliance activities designed to create a culture of assessment, promote faculty engagement, and enhance University operations and services.

Responsibilities: OSPIE is responsible for a variety of tasks including SACSCOC accreditation, academic program review, annual planning and reporting of academic program, administrative and student support units, general education (UK Core) learning outcomes assessment; new academic program development and program changes; providing education and training on the above topics, and finally external reporting to Kentucky's Council of Postsecondary Education.

How OSPIE Supports Faculty:

- Provides assistance for PSLOs
- New program development
- Navigating Kentucky's Council on Postsecondary Education requirements
- Assessment development workshops
- UK Core and TEK mapping resources
- 10 Essential Skills/Wildcat Workforce guidance
- Academic planning guidance

More information on OSPIE can be found at <https://ospie.uky.edu/>