

Assessing Our Revised General Education Program

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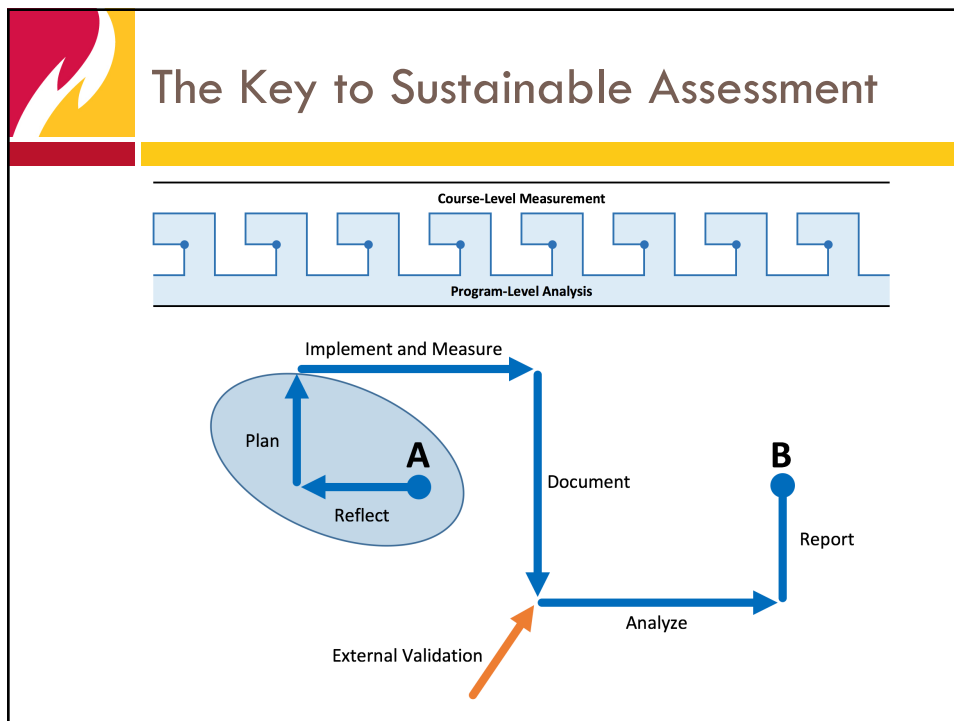
The Assessment Cycle




Goal #1 = We do not want to waste your time.

What is Assessment Really About?


- Assessment is the systematic basis for making inferences about the learning and development of students. It is the process of defining, selecting, designing, collecting, analyzing, interpreting, and using information to increase students' learning and development. Erwin 1991
- Assessment is the systematic collection, review, and use of information about educational programs undertaken for the purpose of improving student learning and development. Palomba and Banta 1999
- Assessment involves the use of empirical data on student learning to refine programs and improve student learning. Allen 2004






Garbage In → Garbage Out

IN **OUT**




Course-level data must be uniform and open to validation




The Plan

- 🔥 Gather course-level assessment data for all General Education classes
- 🔥 Simplify, standardize, and automate documentation
- 🔥 Use TracDat as a permanent and secure repository for all raw data
- 🔥 De-identify, aggregate, analyze, and report findings publicly
- 🔥 Evaluate, discuss, and use the data to improve the program




Standardize Learning Outcomes

- **CUL1: Interpretation** – Students will be able to demonstrate an increased ability to interpret cultural works and practices, including but not limited to art, music, literature, language, history, philosophy and religion, as part of a broader culture and justify those interpretations with an understanding of the interpretive process.
- **CUL2: Self-Awareness** – Students will be able to articulate an understanding of themselves as part of culture(s) with rich historical perspectives and gain increased self-understanding through works of culture(s).
- **CUL3: Analysis** – Students will be able to develop justify and improve value distinctions (including aesthetic and ethical) in perception, craft and/or life choices.
- **CUL4 Process-Awareness, Participation** – Students will be able to explain the processes contexts and motivations behind the production of cultural works and practices, and when appropriate be able to participate in their creation.




Standardized Measures

- Fourteen different types of assignments
 - Exams
 - Products
 - Performances
- Pre-determined definitions
 - Scoring
 - Analysis
 - Criteria of "success"




Standard Pedagogies

- Twelve defined pedagogies are defined
- Includes many “high-impact” practices
- Not meant to imply the superiority of any method
- Will track use over programs and time



Standardized Data Collection


- 36 Excel workbooks are available
- 4 for each competency
- 4 for training purposes
 - SCORE – for exams
 - PREPOST – for pre-test/post-test
 - NORM – for standardized exams
 - RUBRIC – for products and performances



TracDat Assignments


- ☞ Assignments for data reporting are emailed
- ☞ Copy and paste the workbook summary
- ☞ Complete a few other fields
- ☞ Attach the workbook and submit


- ☞ The entire process can be done in one cup of coffee



Standardized Analysis

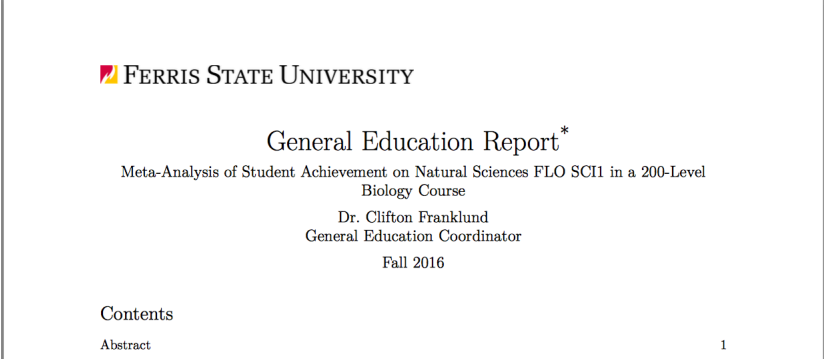
- ☞ All analyses and reports will be reproducible
- ☞ All datasets will be “FERPAnated”
- ☞ All de-identified datasets, analyses, and reports will be under version control and publicly available
- ☞ We will be using the Open Science Framework
<https://osf.io/bax9i/>





Standardized Reporting

- General Education assessment reports will be formatted as journal articles



FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY


General Education Report*

Meta-Analysis of Student Achievement on Natural Sciences FLO SCI1 in a 200-Level
Biology Course

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Contents
Abstract

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Multiple Integrated Opportunities for Faculty Evaluation and Input

- Assessment *IS* when the faculty evaluate, critique, discuss, and act upon the reported data
- Reports will be made publicly for feedback
- Disqus is embedded in the [HTML reports](#)
- Comments are implemented in [OSF](#)
- Pull requests can be made using [GitHub](#)




The End Result

- TracDat will be populated with a large number of standardized reports
- Meta-analysis of this dataset will be used to answer a variety of questions
- All faculty will have access to the data, analysis code, and reports
- A feedback cycle is built into data reporting to allow contextualization of results.



Program Assessment


- This process *could* be adapted to other academic programs
- Workbooks would need to be modified
- One point person to send out assignments
- Advantage = easy and standardized
- Disadvantage = must agree to be standardized



Accessing TracDat Now


- 🔥 You should all have access
- 🔥 If not – contact me and I'll help get that sorted

- 🔥 General Education
- 🔥 Your program



Questions or Comments?

Thank You!



Questions? Comments? Suggestions?