

Wilmington University  
College of Education & Liberal Arts  
Outcomes Assessment Plan  
2023- 2024

Educational Values. The first three assessment prongs include benchmarks and assessment tools; the fourth prong, Promoting Educational Values, “while not directly



To ensure that data are collected and posted in a timely manner, the Chair of the Office of Technology, Assessment, and Compliance has developed a key assessment blueprint for administrators, faculty, staff, and candidates that assure postings by clearly delineated deadlines, typically set up on a semester basis.

For analysis of outcomes data, Directors and Program Chairs periodically review OA data during regular faculty meetings and share as needed with adjunct faculty Advisory Committees. Recommendations and/or other direct and indirect measures to assess the need for change and “closing the loop” are shared at designated college meetings. Major changes/findings/recommendations are also reported to the Office of the Dean who in turn reports annually on Outcomes Assessment to Academic Affairs. Program meetings include OA findings/recommendations at least twice annually; one in the fall to review spring data and one in the spring to review the previous fall data. In addition, Chairs may also present any significant findings or changes resulting from OA to their respective Program Advisory Committees.

The Dean routinely reviews Course Evaluation Forms, Institutional Reports, GPA reports, and survey findings to assess the College level performance. The Dean also reviews the collated reports prepared by the OA Designee.

Beginning with AY24/25, Outcomes Assessment will be included on the College’s monthly meeting agenda. This standing agenda item will allow Chairs to present “closing the loop” information and for discussion of the OA process. Outcomes findings or recommendations will also be placed on the College Team site. During the summer of the academic year, the college holds an annual “closing the loop” meeting with various stakeholders; Directors, Chairs, Adjunct Faculty, Advisory Board Members, and representatives from school districts and the Delaware Department of Education.

Annually, the Dean presents the data and findings, including any examples of closing the loop,” for the college at an annual Academic Affairs Outcomes Summit. Each college presents a summary of the OA process for the year. During this OA Summit, there is also discussion about the OA process.

### Program Review

Academic programs at Wilmington University currently complete a Three Year Program Review process. Since our mission is to provide relevant curricula and career degree programs, and in response to the changing external environment, the program review process now includes One-Year Program Snapshots which specifically look at factors pertaining to enrollment, retention, and graduation.

Certain programs, however, are accredited or approved by an external agency which may require a different timetable. Programs undergoing the University’s Three Year Program Review process are to include a section that reflects an aggregate of assessment data since the last program review was held. Based on this information, the program review should address the following

question: Are students able to successfully integrate learning from individual courses into a

### Written Communication

- x Write with clarity and precision using correct English grammar: mechanics (punctuation) and usage (sentence structure and vocabulary).
- x Exhibit competence in writing for specific purposes, diverse audiences, and genres.
- x Correctly and ethically present scholarly writings utilizing the selected citation and writing style deemed appropriate for the student's program of study.

### Disciplined Inquiry

- x Employ critical thinking strategies such as quantitative, qualitative, and scientific reasoning to analyze consequences and outcomes and then determine logical solutions.

### Information Literacy

- x Using information in any format, research, evaluate, and ethically utilize information effectively and with appropriate attribution.

### Ethics

- x Demonstrate knowledge and application of prescribed ethical codes and behaviors related to the student's academic discipline.

### Additional Program Competencies

- x Additional program competencies as prescribed by the academic colleges can be found on the college web pages and catalog.

### Graduate-level Graduation Competencies

#### Oral Communication

- x Appraise the needs of the audience and then speak in a <sup>be</sup>

Information









## References

- Middle States Commission on Higher Education (2006). *Characteristics of excellence in higher education*. Philadelphia, PA: Author.
- Middle States Commission on Higher Education (2007). *Student learning assessment options and resources*. Philadelphia, PA: Author.
- Middle States Commission on Higher Education (2011). *Interregional guidelines for the evaluation of distance education programs*. Philadelphia, PA: Author.
- Smith, K.H., & Barclay, R.D. (2010). Documenting student learning: valuing the process. *Higher education assessments leadership matters* (pp. 95-118). Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.
- Suskie, L. (2009). *Assessing student learning: A common sense guide*. Bolton, MA: Anker.
- Wilmington University (2009, 2011, 2020, 2023). *Academic Affairs Assessment Plan*