

Planning to Assess Your Course

First Steps

- Go to assessment website and find the plan for your discipline.
- Look up your course and find what outcome(s) are meant to be assessed this term.
- If your course has multiple sections, communicate with your colleagues to coordinate on assessment.
- If your course has a lot of outcomes, and you want to have them reduced, take steps to put through new curriculum for the course this semester.

What is a “Good Assessment”

- An assessment can be or resemble any assignment, test, performance, etc. that is appropriate for your course. The assessment can be just part of one of these, as well.
- The assessment should be a direct measure of the learning outcome, or part of the learning outcome. It doesn't have to be exhaustive.
- Assessments should be directed at finding ways we can improve. The results don't have to indicate needed improvement, but it should be possible for the result to identify an improvement.

Planning Assessments to Influence Planning

- Assessment information is supposed to influence our planning decisions.
- If you know there is some improvement in your area that would be influenced by a planning level decision, you can plan now to do assessments that tie in to that need.
- Imagine how you might reference the assessment results you get this term in next year's program review.

Assessments and Other Areas

- Course level assessments are the basis also for program assessment.
- There is also an initiative to relate course level assessments to Student Development and other service areas.
- If you think your course assessment could be planned in a way that also assesses how the course relates to the program or to another area, that is good to do.