Human Development | 2013-2014 Assessment Report

Please answer the following two questions based on the data you collected as part of your Programmatic Assessment Plan, which is provided below for your reference.

1. Please give a brief overview of the data you collected. This can be in any form you feel is appropriate, such as a table, a short narrative of results, statistical analysis, highlighting findings that were of particular interest, etc. In short, it doesn’t matter how you submit your findings.

We gave an APA style quiz in both methods classes (Psych 300 and Hum Dev 302), as well as some control classes (Middle Childhood and Adolescence, Social Psychology, Counseling Across the Lifespan). Below is a graph of the initial data comparing Developmental Research Methods (Hum Dev 302) to Middle Childhood and Adolescence (Hum Dev 332). We are still working on analyzing the rest of the data. We noted two things: 1) the quiz we administered this year was more difficult than it was last year and 2) the research methods students do have a stronger grasp of APA style after learning about it in this class.

![Graph comparing APA quiz scores](image)

2. How will you use what you’ve learned from the data that was collected? Some examples are: a change in assessment plan for the following year because you want to drill down deeper to find more or better information, faculty will discuss the data to decide what to do with it, curricular changes, faculty development, etc.

We met on 5/9/14 to discuss these initial results. We discussed looking at papers for APA style rather than relying on quizzes, making a module for APA certification, having students take APA style quizzes in
multiple classes, and making a rubric where instructors would check which parts of APA style they would grade on. We will pursue one or both of the last two discussion items. We have encountered issues as a department where students feel like that there are “different” versions of APA style depending on the instructor and then don’t attend to the details of it.

We will analyze the rest of the assessment data in more detail and discuss more in future department meetings.

**Human Development Assessment Plan**

1. Which outcome will you assess?
   Basic Skills: Use APA style effectively

2. Which technique will you use to assess this outcome?
   Still working on this. Last time we administered an APA style quiz and compared performance in a class that teaches APA style with one that does not. We have also coded research papers for the accuracy of APA style in the past.

3. Which course or group of students will you assess on the outcome chosen above and when?
   The methods instructors have volunteered to do this project (Developmental Research Methods and Research Methods in Psych).