

Program: Psychology

Academic Program Assessment Plan (2017-2018)

1. Please review last year's assessment results (2016-2017) as well as the Academic Program Assessment Report with the faculty in your program. How does your program plan to take these results into consideration in future programmatic planning?

The primary finding from last year's assessment is that our students feel confident in their career development and that the vast majority feel they can achieve their career goals. This is even more true when considering the experiences of our graduating seniors with 80% feeling positive about their career goals and having a plan for their career. We will discuss these findings at a meeting and talk about how to implement strategies that will improve our students' experiences.

2. Please review your program's Learning Outcomes. Do any of them need to be updated or clarified?

Our learning outcomes are the same as those articulated by the American Psychological Association in 2013 (APA Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major). We feel an obligation to keep our learning outcomes as consistent with those as possible. These learning outcomes include problem solving and critical thinking explicitly. Likewise, although the word interdisciplinary is not used, the learning outcomes most certainly embrace the value of interdisciplinarity.

- a. Please provide brief indications of the kinds of assessment (e.g. course exams, term papers, course projects, senior seminar, senior interview, etc.) that might be used to assess each outcome. (The purpose here is to see that your program has considered ways it might measure each outcome.)

We can utilize surveys of faculty, surveys of students, exploration of students' work, exit interviews with graduating seniors, and various other mechanisms to assess our learning outcomes.

- b. Please compare your Learning Outcomes to the University's main learning objectives: interdisciplinary, problem-focused education; critical thinking; diversity; environmental sustainability; and engaged citizenship. (These objectives were identified in the MLLO Project, which may be found here: <http://www.uwgb.edu/MLLO/>.) Which programmatic outcomes match university mission outcomes?

Our learning outcomes overlap very well with those identified through the MLLO Project. Even though the exact terminology differs, the concepts are there. However, I think it would be wise for the psychology program faculty to explore their learning outcomes to see if steps can be taken to make them more consistent with the mission while maintaining consistency with APA.

3. Which outcome will you assess this year (2017-2018)?

Goal 2: Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking

2.1 Use scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena

2.2 Demonstrate psychology information literacy

2.3 Engage in innovative and integrative thinking and problem solving

2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research

2.5 Incorporate sociocultural factors in scientific inquiry

4. Which technique will you use to assess this outcome?

We will take a sample of assignments from courses in which this learning outcome is a course outcome. Those assignments will be evaluated by a small team of psychology faculty using a rubric that covers the five areas listed above.

5. Which course or group of students will you assess on the outcome chosen above and when?

All students enrolled in the classes where this learning outcome is a course goal will be included.