

Outcomes Assessment Glossary

Assessment plan	A document that outlines a) the program learning outcomes to be assessed in a given cycle, b) the direct and indirect measures used to demonstrate the attainment of each outcome, c) the expected level of student performance for each measure, d) the timeline for each measure, and e) the individuals responsible for the collection and review of evidence.
Direct measure	An assessment of learning that requires students to demonstrate their learning in a way that an observer can assess it. Examples include exams, papers, performances, and presentations.
Evaluation tool	The tool used to evaluate the assessment. Examples include rubrics, answer keys, checklists and tallies.
Expected level of student performance	The level of achievement students are expected to reach for a given measure. For example, 80% of students will score a 3 or higher on all levels of the rubric.
General education learning outcome	What a student knows, thinks or is able to do in order to be successful in work, family and community
Indirect measure	An assessment that uses perceptions, reflections or secondary evidence to make inferences about student learning. Examples include surveys of employers and students' self-assessments.
Outcomes assessment	A process for the collection and analysis about the achievement of program learning outcomes for the purposes of improvement and to determine or demonstrate the effectiveness of an educational program.
Program learning outcome	What a student knows, thinks or is able to do after completing all of the courses required to complete a particular program of study