

**Liberal Arts Program  
School of Business and Liberal Arts  
Fall 2016 Assessment Report**



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# Liberal Arts Student Learning Outcomes

## PLO

## Defined

- 1 Demonstrate the ability to critically analyze, evaluate, synthesize and apply arguments from various disciplines.
- 2 Demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively both through written and oral means.
- 3 Demonstrate the ability to apply mathematical concepts and models, and to represent mathematical information symbolically, visually, numerically and verbally.
- 4 Demonstrate an understanding of the different skills, methods, goals, and evaluative tools used in the Social Sciences and Humanities.
- 5 Demonstrate an understanding of the methods scientists use to explore natural phenomena, including observation, hypothesis development, measurement and data collection, experimentation, evaluation of evidence, and employment of mathematical analysis.
- 6 Demonstrate an understanding of the history, cultural practices, politics, beliefs, and institutions of other cultures and the interplay of diverse worldviews in the global context.

## What Outcomes [ILOs] Were Assessed

ILO	Defined
1	Communication Skills: Demonstrates the ability to effectively present, organize, and articulate thoughts, ideas, viewpoints, and conclusions both orally and/or in writing
2	Critical Thinking: Demonstrates the ability to interpret, apply, analyze, identify, distinguish and evaluate the assumptions, methodology and/or evidence of concepts, constructs and theory to provide a valid response, conclusion or recommendation.
3	Professional Competence: Demonstrates knowledge and the ability to apply professional, industry and ethical standards through the development of skills and knowledge consistent in professional practice within the respective discipline.
4	Inter/Intrapersonal Skills: Demonstrates an ability to address professional and ethical responsibilities including a respect for diversity; recognize the impact of societal issues within a global context; function effectively as a member or leader of a team; and perform self-reflection of personal growth and achievement.

## How Liberal Arts Courses Mapped to ILOs:

PLO	Courses	Defined
1	ANTH 102 ENGL 101 ENGL 221 HIST 103 MATH 111 MATH 121 PSYC 101 SOCI 101	Communication Skills: Demonstrates the ability to effectively present, organize, and articulate thoughts, ideas, viewpoints, and conclusions both orally and/or in writing
2	ANTH 102 BIOL 101 ENGL 101 ENGL 221 HIST 103 MATH 111 MATH 121 PSYC 101 SOCI 101	Critical Thinking: Demonstrates the ability to interpret, apply, analyze, identify, distinguish and evaluate the assumptions, methodology and/or evidence of concepts, constructs and theory to provide a valid response, conclusion or recommendation.
3	ANTH 102 BIOL 101 ENGL 101 ENGL 221 HIST 103 PSYC 101	Professional Competence: Demonstrates knowledge and the ability to apply professional, industry and ethical standards through the development of skills and knowledge consistent in professional practice within the respective discipline.
4	ANTH 102 ENGL 101 ENGL 221 PSYC 101	Inter/Intrapersonal Skills: Demonstrates an ability to address professional and ethical responsibilities including a respect for diversity; recognize the impact of societal issues within a global context; function effectively as a member or leader of a team; and perform self-reflection of personal growth and achievement.

# How was the assessment accomplished?

## Assessment Tools:

- Quizzes
- Mid-Terms and Final Exams
- Written Assignments
- Oral Presentations
- Reflective Journal Writing
- Portfolio Submission

# PLO Assessment Findings

**ILO 1: Communication Skills: Demonstrates the ability to effectively present, organize, and articulate thoughts, ideas, viewpoints, and conclusions both orally and/or in writing.**

<b>Results</b>	<b>Measure s</b>	<b>Not Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Exceeded</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No Findings</b>	<b>%</b>
All Courses	173	27	30%	34	20%	82	47%	29	17%
ANTH 102	5	0	0%	0	0%	3	60%	2	40%
ENGL 101	55	3	5%	6	11%	32	58%	14	25%
ENGL 221	4	1	25%	1	25%	1	25%	1	25%
HIST 103	4	0	0%	1	25%	0	0%	3	75%
MATH 111	27	9	33%	7	26%	8	30%	3	11%
MATH 121	39	5	13%	5	13%	26	67%	3	8%
PSYC 101	30	8	27%	10	33%	11	37%	0	0%
SOCI 101	9	1	11%	4	44%	1	11%	3	33%

\* PSYC 101 reported the following for “Unspecified”: N – 1 / 3%

**ILO 2: Critical Thinking: Demonstrates the ability to interpret, apply, analyze, identify, distinguish and evaluate the assumptions, methodology and/or evidence of concepts, constructs and theory to provide a valid response, conclusion or recommendation.**

<b>Results</b>	<b>Measure s</b>	<b>Not Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Exceeded</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No Findings</b>	<b>%</b>
All Courses	176	33	30%	39	22%	73	41%	30	17%
ANTH 102	7	0	0%	0	0%	4	57%	3	43%
BIOL 101	5	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	5	100%
ENGL 101	40	5	13%	7	18%	20	50%	8	20%
ENGL 221	2	1	50%	0	0%	0	0%	1	50%
HIST 103	6	2	33%	1	17%	0	0%	3	50%
MATH 111	27	9	33%	7	26%	9	33%	2	7%
MATH 121	29	5	13%	5	13%	26	67%	3	8%
PSYC 101	38	10	26%	13	34%	13	34%	1	3%
SOCI 101	12	1	8%	6	50%	1	8%	4	33%



**ILO 3: Professional Competence: Demonstrates knowledge and the ability to apply professional, industry and ethical standards through the development of skills and knowledge consistent in professional practice within the respective discipline.**

<b>Results</b>	<b>Measure s</b>	<b>Not Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Exceeded</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No Findings</b>	<b>%</b>
All Courses	102	16	16%	24	24%	37	36%	24	24%
ANTH 102	8	0	0%	0	0%	4	50%	4	50%
BIOL 101	4	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	4	100%
ENGL 101	41	4	10%	8	20%	20	49%	9	22%
ENGL 221	1	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%
HIST 103	10	2	20%	2	20%	0	0%	6	60%
PSYC 101	38	10	26%	13	34%	13	34%	1	3%

\* PSYC 101 reported the following for “Unspecified”: N – 1 / 3%

**ILO 4: Inter/Intrapersonal Skills: Demonstrates an ability to address professional and ethical responsibilities including a respect for diversity; recognize the impact of societal issues within a global context; function effectively as a member or leader of a team; and perform self-reflection of personal growth and achievement.**

<b>Results</b>	<b>Measure s</b>	<b>Not Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Exceeded</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No Findings</b>	<b>%</b>
All Courses	42	8	19%	9	21%	17	40%	7	17%
ANTH 102	3	0	0%	0	0%	2	67%	1	33%
ENGL 101	15	0	0%	2	13%	8	53%	5	33%
ENGL 221	1	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%
PSYC 101	23	8	35%	7	30%	6	26%	1	4%

\* PSYC 101 reported the following for “Unspecified”: N – 1 / 3%

# Summary

ILO	Total Measures	Measures Not Met	Measures Met or Exceeded	No Findings
1	173	27 or 16%	116 or <u>67%</u>	29 or 17%
2	176	33 or 19%	112 or <u>64%</u>	30 or 17%
3	102	16 or 16%	61 or <u>60%</u>	17 or 16%
4	43	8 or 19%	26 or <u>60%</u>	7 or 17%

# **AACU Assessment Findings**

## **Liberal Arts**

## AACU Assessment Results – Communication (Written or Oral)

Subject	Course	Sections Participating	Total Sections	Outcome
HIST	305		Not Taught Fall 2016	24
HIST	307	0	1	No Outcomes Reported
ENGL	201		Not Taught Fall 2016	
ENGL	216	2	2	2 Met
ENGL	301	2	2	1 Exceeded
PSYC	340	1	1	2 Met
SOCI	300	0	1	No Outcomes Reported

Total Sections Selected for Assessment: 7

Total Sections Assessed: 5

% Section Meeting or Exceeding Target: 100%

## AACU Assessment Results – Critical Thinking

ID	Subject	Course	Sections Participating	Total Sections	Outcome
1	HIST	307	0	1	No Outcomes Reported
2	ENGL	220	1	1	1 Exceeded
3	PSYC	275	0	1	Assessed for Communication
4	SOCI	300	0	1	No Outcomes Reported

Total Sections Selected for Assessment: 4

Total Sections Assessed: 1

% Section Meeting or Exceeding Target: 100%

# **Recommendations, Reflections, and Notes**

# **Recommendations, Reflections, and Notes: AACU Assessment Results – Communication (Written or Oral)**

ENGL 216: The target goal will be raised to 70% will score 15/20 points. To ensure students reach this goal, the assignment will begin earlier in the semester to give more time, and will include an additional revision

ENGL 216: Share the AACU Communication Rubric with students as one of the ways they can self-check their drafts (in addition to the course's peer editing component). Because there were so few students persisting in the class, the findings are not indicative of much.

PSYC 340: Get students to submit slides electronically rather than handouts so that I can enter the findings easier.



# **Recommendations, Reflections, and Notes: Assessment Results**

## **- Program Learning Objectives**

All four ISLOs Met or Exceeded their Measures at a level of 60% or higher.

All four ISLOs had Measures that were Not Met at a level of 19% or lower.

Overall, the above are good but a target of 70% of Met or Exceeded Measures ought to remain. Also, it was very difficult to draw any firm conclusions because of the No Findings results at 16-17%.

**“Closing the Loop”**

## **Suggested Program Changes**

- Encourage greater collaboration among faculty teaching different sections of the same course to share best practices.
- Ensure that the Liberal Arts Committee meets and discusses assessment at regular intervals.
- Encourage closer interaction between our non-tenure-track faculty and those on the tenure-track.

# **Suggested Changes in Teaching**

- Ensure that we meet the need of our advanced students as well as the underprepared in our classes.
- Encourage students to avail themselves of the tutoring and writing centers.
- Develop assignments that speak more closely to the course SLOs.
- Ensure that, in addition to specific curricular content, we emphasize the Liberal Arts significance of our courses.

# Suggested Assessment / Taskstream Changes

- Extract data that notes not the measures “Met” or “Not Met” but the students meeting or not meeting standards.
- Edit ILO 3 “Professional Competence” – It is difficult to apply this measure to Liberal Arts Disciplines. Perhaps reword it to read “Professional and/or Disciplinary Competence”
- Collapse “Met” and “Exceeded” into a “Met” category.
- It was somewhat difficult to pull meaning from the our Assessment findings because of the above.

# Budgetary Requests

- None