



ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES IN GENERAL EDUCATION

SUMMARY REPORT

*Use this form to provide a summary report on campus-based assessment
Of student learning outcomes in General Education*

GER 6

Name of Institution: SUNY CANTON
{Specify name of branch campus, if relevant}

Academic Year: 2015-2016

Program improvements made as a result of the previous assessment of General Education:

The last assessment cycle was conducted in 2013-2013 and since then our we've hired a new European / global historian to replace Dr. Raymond Krisciunas (retirement). As such, we should see significant changes in the upcoming rounds of GER assessment as our new faculty member - Dr. Jennifer Sovde – has already been working on some noteworthy initiatives including developing improved SLOs for GER 6. Since the last round of assessment syllabi were altered to better align with the SLO including providing room for more “diagnostic” tools such as chapter quizzes and discussion boards. As well there was a concerted attempt to clarify the course expectations and policies for students. Lastly, and especially in our online sections course material and the syllabi were adjusted to reflect the growing population of cross-registered students (from the Associated colleges).

In the course of conducting this cycle of assessment, were there any significant deviations from the plan that was approved by the General Education Assessment Review (GEAR) Group? If so, please comment on why the campus felt that it was necessary to make these changes and how these changes may have affected the reported results, if at all.

No deviations.

Major findings of this assessment:

The aforementioned changes yielded some good results in the “Exceeded” category – in 2013, 44.2% of students exceeded and in the current round it was 50%. In the “Meeting” category there was a drop from 40.6% in 2013 to 36% in 2015-2016. Finally, in the “Not Meeting” category the numbers were 10% in 2013 and 13.7 for 2015-2016. Taken together these indicate little change from the last assessment cycle.

Action to be taken in addressing these assessment findings:

As mentioned above, we have new personnel in the department. The first order of priority is to assist our new (and only) European / global history faculty member to become familiar with our assessment process; having done that we should then develop an even more coordinated approach to assessment between Dr. Sovde, me, and our other faculty which would hopefully alleviate some of the reporting disparities. There were some variegated notions of what categorized “Exceeding” and “Meeting” which may, in fact, be explained by a poorly worded SLO. Dr. Sovde has committed to editing the SLO for GER 6 which should help. .

What has been learned that could be helpful to others as they conduct assessment of General Education?

To consider GER Assessment a process rather than a set of discrete snapshots. Also, it might be helpful to have some sort of spreadsheet that identifies the assessment cycles (and various levels of assessments – not just GER) in advance so Curriculum Coordinators / Chairs could consult them at regular intervals.

Chief Academic Officer: _____

Date: _____