

Assessment and Accreditation Committee Recommendations

Program: BLA

Action Decided by the University Assessment and Accreditation Committee: Decision Date: **February 2016**

Assessment plan approved

Program Review Submission Schedule:

BOG Program Review ([assessment update](#) and HEPC summary document) **spring 2017**

BLA Program Assessment Review

Given that this is the first Program Review report generated by the BLA program since the program began in 2010, the Assessment and Accreditation Committee (A&A) is impressed with the thought that went into this assessment system. It is clear to the committee that the BLA program is a program that “gets it.” That said, the Committee is providing suggestions and recommendations for further development and improvement.

Student Learning Outcomes

The A&A Committee is concerned with the fact that the BLA Program has eight student learning outcomes. Having eight, means assessing eight. National best practices, often suggest that 3-5 outcomes is the “sweet spot.” There is nothing that restricts the BLA program from having eight outcomes, but it may complicate the assessment work, since it will be necessary to thoroughly collect data for and assess all eight outcomes. The A&A Committee suggest streamlining or combining the outcomes to simplify the process of data collection and analysis.

General Studies Integration

The A&A Committee recommends a stronger integration of the self/cultural awareness general studies outcome. In the past, the committee has been lenient with coverage by allowing programs to pick and choose which GS outcome to integrate. However, now that the General Studies Assessment Committee has reduced the number of general studies outcomes from seven to three, it becomes preferable to move all programs in the direction of full integration. And in the case of the BLA program, integrating self and cultural awareness into program outcomes and measures should not be too difficult.

Assessment Measures and Location

The A&A Committee suggests that the BLA Program relies a bit too heavily on indirect measures and would like to see additional direct measures incorporated into the plans. The committee is encouraging a more meticulous alignment of measures to their locations. In other words, it sometimes felt as though very broad outcomes were being measured in considerably more narrow ways. There isn't an inherent problem with doing so, but it might require a few more direct measures strategically located throughout the program in order to more fully cover the broader outcomes.

Timeline for Assessment Implementation

The A&A Committee suggests a need for more evidence of future assessment planning. At least a three-to-five year plan is recommended that will describe the next steps for assessment planning and implementation. Overall, as aforementioned, this is a program that clearly understands assessment, and given that this is the first report and review by the Committee, the BLA Assessment Report is a successful submission.

Committee Membership

Steve Criniti, Chair; Craig Crow; Tifani Fletcher; Matthew Harder; Donna Lukich; Tammy McClain; Margaret Six; Paula Tomasik

Assessment and Accreditation Committee Recommendations

BLA	(5) Evidence of exemplary full implementation	(4) Evidence of completed implementation/revisions	(3) Evidence of initial implementation/ revisions	(2) Evidence of planning	(1) Evidence not included
(A) Student Learning Outcomes	Program has developed at least 3 SLOs that are clearly and specifically stated.	Program has developed at least 3 SLOs, but they show some lack in clarity or specificity.	Program has stated some SLOs, but they are far too vague and/or immeasurable to be useful.	Program has not solidified SLOs and may still be in the planning/discussion stages.	No indication that the program has considered or even begun drafting SLOs
(B) General Studies Integration	Program has fully integrated General Studies SLOs into its assessment plan (both in its SLOs and measures) where applicable.	Program has integrated at least one applicable General Studies SLO into its assessment plan (SLOs and measures) in at least one location.	Program has integrated at least one applicable General Studies SLO into its assessment plan in <i>either</i> an SLO or measure.	Program demonstrates the recognition of a need to integrate General Studies SLOs into program assessment, but is still planning for implementation.	Program shows no indication of attempting to integrate General Studies SLOs into program assessment.
(C) Assessment Method (Measures/ Instruments)	Program has developed/ adopted multiple assessment measures (both direct and indirect) for each stated SLO.	Program has developed/ adopted at least one assessment measure (direct or indirect) for each stated SLO.	Program has developed/ adopted at least one assessment measure for at least one SLO.	Program is in the process of developing assessment measures for at least one SLO.	Program has not considered a method for measuring its SLOs.
(D) Location of Measures	Program has implemented multiple assessment measures for each SLO at multiple points throughout the program (milestones and capstones)	Program has implemented multiple assessment measures for at least one SLO at multiple points throughout the program.	Program has implemented at least one assessment measure for at least one SLO in at least one location in the program.	Program is still developing measures and is, therefore, still considering appropriate locations for those measures.	No consideration given to the location of assessment measures.
(E) Timeline for Assessment Implementation	Program has outlined a clear plan for assessment implementation over each of the next 3 years.	Program has articulated a plan for assessment implementation over the next three years, but that plan has some incomplete areas.	Program has articulated a plan for assessment implementation, but that plan does not extend beyond the upcoming year.	Program shows evidence of having thought about future assessment implementation, but those plans are not clearly or systematically articulated.	Program shows no evidence of having thought about assessment implementation in the upcoming years
(F) Implementation of Program Revision	Program clearly shows how assessment findings have been used in recent program revisions, and has identified a plan for further program improvement.	Program has shown evidence of having linked assessment findings to program improvement, but has not yet completed those improvements, and the program may have a plan for doing so in upcoming years.	Program has not sufficiently shown the link between program revisions and assessment findings. Program may have an incomplete plan for future improvements based on current data.	Program has identified a generalized plan for future program improvement based on assessment findings currently being gathered.	Program shows no evidence of using assessment findings for program improvement.

Committee Membership

Steve Criniti, Chair; Craig Crow; Tifani Fletcher; Matthew Harder; Donna Lukich; Tammy McClain; Margaret Six; Paula Tomasik