

ACTION PLANS

This asks programs to explain their process of sharing and using assessment results for decision making. The strength of assessment is not that it provides quick fixes for a problem, but that it promotes active, informed, and systematic improvement of a program through discussion among faculty. This is an opportunity to review student learning data and make decisions as a program.

How to Use Results and Create Action Plans

The Use of Results and Action Plans should address the following questions:

- a. How is assessment information about the quality of learning shared and used for program decision making in areas such as curriculum, pedagogy, and other aspects that impact learning?
- b. What actions do the results suggest need to be implemented?
- c. What concrete actions will the program take to sustain or improve this outcome? What is the timeframe of these actions?

Meets Standard Criteria on Academic Assessment Rubric:

- Action plans are developed directly from results and are aligned with the outcome; actions are intended to modify course, program, teaching methods, curriculum, etc. to improve student learning; as necessary, actions are intended to improve assessment strategies.

Here's a template to follow:

3. Use of Results and Creation of Action Plans

Assessment information was reviewed and discussed [3a. describe process for using results]. As appropriate, [3a. describe process for decision making – e.g. changes and recommendations about curriculum, pedagogy, or other aspects that impact learning are made]. Based on our discussions, review of the results, and additional departmental information, the program will [3b. describe actions]. This action plan will be completed by [3c. timeframe] with the help of [3c. persons responsible].

Examples

Example 1: Create a repository for faculty, outcome – written communication and theory evaluation
Assessment information was reviewed and discussed [3a] at a curriculum committee meeting. The curriculum annually reviews this information and recommends changes to the curriculum, pedagogy, or other aspects that impact learning. These recommendations are shared with the chair and the faculty. Based on our discussions, partially met targets related to written communication and theory evaluation, and additional departmental information, the program will [3b] create a repository of model assignments and assessments related to the written communication and theory evaluation program outcomes. This repository is be collaboratively developed by faculty and will serve as a guide in addition

How-To Guide: Academic Program Assessment Plan and Report

to the syllabus for future faculty teaching this required course. This action plan will be completed by [3c] before the start of the fall semester with the help of [3c] three lead faculty teaching ODUU 300W.

Example 2: Additional modules and quizzes are needed to enhance student's analysis of social and cultural dimensions, outcome - historical, social, and cultural knowledge

[3a] Results were shared with all faculty members of ODUU 400. Results were discussed at the curriculum committee meeting and an action plan was developed by faculty teaching ODUU 400. [3b] The curriculum committee will review where and how social and cultural dimensions are taught within the program. [3c] A curriculum map will be shared with faculty in November. Dr. Monarch will develop a teaching module on social and cultural dimensions by the fall semester for all faculty to use in ODUU 400. Dr. Dominion will develop quiz questions for faculty teaching ODUU 400.

Example 3: Reading and Writing test scores improve with additional test prep, outcome - content knowledge

In order to be the best program in the state, we are striving for a 95% pass rate. [3a] Program faculty and staff met to review assessment information during our annual program retreat. After some discussion, [3b] we are going to introduce this resource to students earlier in the program. [3c] Students will have access to NorthStar upon entry into the program starting in 20XX. Information about this resource will be shared at an orientation session this upcoming fall. Orientation will be managed by our academic advisor. We hope to see the impact of this modification in two years through improved performance on the PRAXIS as well as an increase in practice test usage and scoring.

For more information, please contact the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment
www.odu.edu/assessment
assess@odu.edu
(757) 683-3322