

How Are Core Assessment Results Used?

Phase 1 – Identify outcomes and attach them to core courses (Completed 2004-2006)

Phase 2 – Assess the outcomes in all core courses (some courses/skills assessed each year)

Phase 3 – Analyze and Use Results of Assessment to Initiate Improvements (some each year)

1. **Analyze the data from assessments** – standardized and course embedded
2. **Decide who will be responsible for implementing strategies for improvement**
 - a. All departments across the university responsible for making changes for improvements in some overarching core learning outcomes (such as critical thinking and writing) – especially the basic intellectual competencies
 - b. Departments which teach core courses responsible for improvements in some core outcomes specific to their area of the core (such as, science departments responsible for core science outcomes)
3. **Develop strategies for improving student performance and implement them**
 - A. Modify course plans to increase learning** - Revise/improve courses; design more active learning activities; examine options for strengthening or extending teaching in areas where students perform poorly; add new teaching resources; provide workshops on teaching specific outcomes; examine new textbooks and online learning resources
 - B. Modify management of teaching of core courses to achieve more consistent results** – adopt standard syllabi and possibly common final exams; initiate workshops/ training adjuncts or GA's in teaching the outcomes of the course
 - C. Reallocate resources to add support** – add supplemental instruction tutors to classes with high failure rates; assign a tenured/ tenure-track professor to coordinate core course syllabi and instruction
 - D. Develop more useful assessment measures** – when the assessment does not provide enough answers, more data may be needed such as student characteristics, placement testing scores, etc; more detailed assessment instruments may be designed; more analysis of data may be needed
 - E. Other?**