

ASSESSING LEARNING OUTCOMES

ARTICLE NUMBER: 413

LAST APPROVED: May 6, 2019

REFERENCE:

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Assessment is the systematic process of gathering, interpreting, and acting upon data related to student learning and experience for the purposes of course and program improvement. The connection between teaching and learning is a complex one, and it is necessary to use multiple measures to develop a comprehensive understanding of how curriculum design and delivery relate to student learning. Assessment is an iterative and adaptive process in which results inform changes to instructional and assessment practices. The critical element is the use of results in decision-making. Finally, the basis of good assessment practice is a shared understanding of program goals to ensure that all those involved in curriculum delivery are working toward the same ends.

In conjunction with guidelines published by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, Tillamook Bay Community College (TBCC) requires faculty to establish learning outcomes for all courses and programs, and to develop plans for evaluating the extent to which students are achieving the outcomes. TBCC requires faculty to assess course, program, and institutional level learning outcomes for each course taught. The faculty review these results annually and use results to inform curricular changes. The administration's role is to coordinate, conduct surveys and provide data of institutional scope.