**Introduction:** UCC’s Assessment Self Study and Action Plan process, together, allow faculty to take stock of assessment processes and prioritize next steps. This form is completed by department chairs, program coordinators, and program directors for their programs, areas of study, or by groups of courses, in collaboration with department faculty. It is completed at the program, area of study, or within a department – whichever is the most meaningful. If this report references multiple programs or groups of courses, it should refer to them specifically where appropriate.

|  |
| --- |
| To complete the report and Action Plan: Refer to your completed Self-Study. This form will help you reflect on the Self-Study and current status, prioritize program needs, and create a timeline in which these needs should be addressed. Feedback and assistance will be provided for implementation of all program and assessment goals. |

**Assessment Report and Action Plan**

The Report and Action Plan provides a space to reflect on the work you’ve done over the previous year, and looks out three years (until the 7-year accreditation visit). It is used to document and plan for each department/area of study/program’s assessment progress. It is not used as a performance review. Instead, it is to help determine each area’s assessment “status” to move forward productively in ongoing assessment work, and breakdown assessment work into specific tasks to move to the upper levels of the NWCCU assessment rubric.

Note: Separate forms are provided for programs that lead to a specific degree or certificate, versus the departments that support General Education and Arts and Sciences courses. As applicable, see sections 2 and 3 of this document for these forms.

## I. Information

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date** |  |
| **Focus of this report and action plan.** | Circle: **Individual Program / Area of Study**  / **Group of Courses** |
| **Which one?** |
| **Department** | **Writing Department** |
| **Programs that make up the Area of Study** *(If Applicable)* | **NA** |
| **AAOT outcomes assessed in courses within your department** *(If Applicable)* | NA |
| **Faculty who participated in creating this report and action plan** | Tafea Polamalu |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Discuss the assessment work currently happening, and identify any gaps. Refer to the Self-Study rubric row (SS R1, etc) for associated criteria**  **Answer:** *Do the programs in your department or area of study have the following foundational elements in place? What is their status of development? List major changes made in the past year and work, if any, that is planned or ongoing. Provide final copies of anything changed this year.* | |
| **Course Learning Outcomes:** *Are the CLOs in applicable courses clear, well written, and identical across sections of the same course?*  **SS R1** | Yes |
| **Program Learning Outcomes:** *Are the PLOs appropriate and well-written? Have you created/do you use rubrics to assess them?* **SS R2** | Yes |
| **Curriculum and Assessment Mapping:** *Is this map complete? Does your curriculum align with your PLOs?***SS R3** | NA |
| **Assessment Implementation***: Is assessment evidence collected? Is it discussed? Is it reviewed using set criteria?* **SS R4** | Yes |
| **Assessment results are valid:** *How do you know that your assessment work is meaningful, and produces results that allow you to determine whether students are achieving program learning outcomes?* **SS R5** | At the course level, instructors gather periodic data that attempt to measure the success of course learning outcomes. Once data is gathered, instructors carefully assess and record it. Once course level data is assessed, this information is used to measure the success of program learning outcomes, which are directly linked to the course learning outcomes. |
| **Assessment results are reliable*:*** *Are assessments standardized across course sections and PLOs? Are rubrics created and used consistently?* **SS R6** | Yes |
| **Assessment results lead to changes in teaching and learning strategies and inform planning and budgets:** *What are ways this currently takes place, and/or plans for it to take place?* **SS R7/8** | For some assignments, multimedia technology is useful in increasing learner outcomes. Use of video tutorials, video lectures, and other digital mediums increase leaner engagement and ultimately retention. |

## II. Assessment Work Reflection – Refer to Assessment Self-Study

## III. Data Reflection (2pgs) *(For now, use what data you may have available. If it is not available, simply note that it is not, and specify what data you need and where you think it would come from. Beginning next year, data packets will be provided to assist with this report.)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Data Reflection** | |
| *Provide a response to the following data topics – note any trends or notable data that are affecting each of these topics. Discuss any decisions/plans department is considering related to the following topics. Note operational successes and where current decisions will be continued. If applicable, note specifics by program.* | |
| **FTE Data:** *Consider factors impacting external and institutional student/industry demand for the program and any reactions* | The external social and economic factors that impact “demand for the program” are complex and multivariate. Factors that negatively impact the need for the program include: student debt, the high rate of unemployed college graduates, and the high cost of college weighed against an unpredictable job market. External factors that positively impact the need for the program include: the fact that in a creative market space, there will always be a demand for critical thinking, reading, and writing. Positive institutional factors include: UCC has a great group of highly educated writing instructors who care, and it also helps that writing is a core requirement for most degree and certificate programs. |
| **Student retention, persistence, progression, achievement:** *Consider trends and results in overall numbers, program demographics, any achievement gaps, and external mitigating factors, if any.* | As noted above, the external mitigating factors are complex and multivariate. Living in a working-class, rural area, the relationship between unemployment and financial aid has the most noticeable, immediate impact on results in overall program demographics. These same economic forces also greatly influence retention, persistence, progression, and achievement.  I have noticed that the younger generations of college students seem to have more difficulties adjusting to college classrooms that are lecture and reading intensive. Of course, this cannot be avoided in college, so the question becomes, to what degree do we integrate digital mediums into our course content? Do we attempt to stretch the attention spans of young minds or stimulate our content in attempts to stimulate their attentions? Or, perhaps, meet in the middle? |
| **Availability of course offerings, scheduling, and mode of instruction:** *Do these align with what you know of student needs? How do you know?* | This will always be a challenge in a small college because we can only offer so many courses. We do our best, but we need to continuously reevaluate this question for changing demographics and needs. |
| **Student Access:** *Do students receive appropriate support and education services to succeed in this program? What collaborations or other provided services may be helpful to your students?* | In order to answer this question, I need to focus it by speaking to the middle. Yes, the average middle-of-the-pack UCC learner has the support and education services needed to succeed. However, this question also needs to continuously be revisited. There seems to be a growing number of students who lack the basic skills required to succeed in college-level writing classes. Perhaps a more rigorous screening process is needed.  There are also growing demographics of minority groups who deserve better resources. For example, we need more Spanish speaking staff and resources in order to better serve our Latino/a student population. |
| **Recruitment Efforts:** *Describe any recruitment efforts currently underway, those goals, and any results of previous efforts.* | NA |
| **Any other data used to make decisions for planning, resource allocation, curriculum changes, etc?** | NA |

## IV. Mission Fulfillment Reflection

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Mission Fulfillment** | |
| *Discuss the mission of the programs within your area of study, if applicable. If you are reviewing a group of courses that are not aligned with a mission statement, skip to question 3: How has your program/department helped advance UCC’s mission?* | |
| **If applicable, what is your program mission?** | NA |
| **Are you fulfilling your mission? How do you know?** *Indicators, evidence, data, etc.* | NA |
| **How has your program/department helped to advance UCC's mission?** *Relate to UCC’s Strategic Plan and Goals, which help articulate the ways that UCC accomplishes its mission.* | The UCC English Department heavily focuses on critical thinking. Perhaps the best way to enrich a community is to facilitate access to critical information, while teaching critical thinking, reading, listening and writing skills. Education is transformative. In this era of mass media, one’s ability to deconstruct and discern information and to communicate effectively is perhaps more important than ever. In the English Department, students learn to deconstruct a diverse range of rhetorical modes and to decode hidden messages. These resources are invaluable in today’s society, on campus and beyond. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Action Plan with Timeline** What are your top priorities to address, according to your self-study and analysis? What needs to be developed in order to accomplish the requirements of the assessment model? Try to break these into specific tasks: Review Course Learning Outcomes, Map curriculums and related assessments, Review PLOs with the advisory committee, develop rubrics for learning outcomes, etc. It is expected that all elements referenced on the self-study are addressed, but prioritized in a way that makes sense for your program/area of study/department. **These should be all be operationalized, with evidence, by August 2021**. Curriculum mapping with assessment plans should be completed first, including rubrics for the assessments, so that program level learning outcomes can be assessed beginning next school year. Program Learning Outcomes should all go through at least one round of assessment by August, 2022. Note who and when as possible. | | |
| **2019-2020** | **2020-2021** | **2021-2022** |
| Assess CLO for WR 115 and WR 121. Work with other English instructors on alignment of rubrics and assignments. | Assess CLO outcome for WR 121 and 122. | Assess CLO for 115 and 121 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

## V. Action Plan with Timeline

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Resources or Assistance Required to Complete the Action Plan on the Stated Timeline** | |
| The Assessment team will work to provide 1:1 and group assistance in an ongoing manner. **What are the resources and assistance you may need to complete your action plan?** For example estimated work time, how-to resources, in-service sessions, workshops, and any other considerations and support**.** | NA |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Action Plan Timeline EXAMPLE What are your top priorities to address, according to your self-study and analysis? What needs to be developed in order to accomplish the requirements of the assessment model? Try to break these into specific tasks: Review Course Learning Outcomes, Map curriculums and related assessments, Review PLOs with the advisory committee, develop rubrics for learning outcomes, etc.**  **The expectation is that assessment work is completed in a way that makes sense for your working groups. It is expected that all elements referenced on the self-study are addressed, but prioritized in a way that makes sense for your department/area of study/program. These should be all be operationalized, with evidence, by August 2021. Curriculum mapping with assessment plans should be completed first, including rubrics for the assessments, so that program level learning outcomes can be assessed beginning next school year. Program Learning Outcomes should all go through at least one round of assessment by August, 2022. Note who and when as possible.** | | |
| **2019-2020** | **2020-2021** | **2021-2022** |
| *Ex. In Fall 2019, Program coordinator will work with faculty to create curriculum maps for all programs associated with this area of study. These maps will designate where assessment of PLOs are taking place.* | *In Fall 2020, program coordinator will work with faculty to review the curriculum map and planned assessments and make changes as needed.* | *In Fall 2021, program coordinator instructors will review the rubrics and assessments used for validity, and will implement changes as needed.* |
| *In Winter 2019, program coordinator will work with faculty to create rubrics for the assignments associated with 2 PLOs and one ULO.* | *In Fall and Winter 2020, program coordinator will work with faculty to create rubrics for the assignments associated with remaining PLOs* | *Fall 2021-22, instructors will complete course learning outcome assessment, program learning outcome assessment, and/or universal learning outcome assessment* |
| *In Spring 2020, program coordinator will work with faculty to determine which instructors will produce a program learning outcome assessment within their course that spring or summer.* | *In Winter and Spring, program coordinator will work with faculty to determine which instructors will produce a program learning outcome assessment and these will be completed.* | *Winter 2022, instructors will discuss how the changes they implemented to rubrics and final assessments have changed their assessment results, and whether that’s been consistent across sections of different courses* |
| *Each term, instructors of sections of the same course will meet to discuss the major assessments they are using in classes to determine whether the assessments are consistent across different sections of the course.* | *In Fall 2020, instructors will review their course learning outcomes for each course they teach that term and make revisions as necessary, working in conjunction with advisory board members to make sure that learning outcomes support program outcomes and external requirements.* | *Spring 2021, program coordinator, advisory board, and instructors will conduct a need analysis of the industry and get feedback from the advisory board to begin an evaluation of PLOs.* |
| *Each instructor will produce a course learning outcome assessment, program learning outcome assessment, and/or universal learning outcome assessment.* | *Each instructor will produce a course learning outcome assessment, program learning outcome assessment, and/or universal learning outcome assessment.* |  |