



Academic Affairs Assessment of Student Learning

Assessment Plan for Academic Years 2019 and 2020

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Please submit a copy of this assessment plan to the Coordinator of Academic Program Assessment (Aaron Settle – asettle1@wvstateu.edu)
- Please be sure to keep a copy of the assessment plan in your department office.

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION:

College: College of Professional Studies

Department/Program: Social Work

Assessment Coordinator's Name: Kerri Steele

Assessment Coordinator's Email Address: ksteele1@wvstateu.edu

Academic Year: 2019-2020

Program Learning Outcomes (Please list)

(New PLO's for Fall 2019)

1. Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior;
2. Engage in diversity and difference in practice;
3. Advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice;
4. Engage in practice-informed research and research-informed practice;
5. Engage in policy practice;
6. Engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities;
7. Assess individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities;
8. Intervene with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities;
9. Evaluate practices with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities

Curriculum Assessment Map (Please provide a curriculum assessment map identifying the course(s) that each PLO is assessed. Make a special note of assessments that the departmental assessment coordinator collects data from to analyze overall learning of the PLO's.

See separate document, Generalist Curriculum Matrix

1. Outline which learning outcomes and where you expect to conduct measures over the next 2 academic years (falls and springs) Include rationale, e.g., trending data, planned/ongoing follow-up from previous assessments or program review cycle, etc.)

All competencies and practice behaviors will be measured as learning outcomes in fall and spring of the AY19/20 in the field courses SWK 404 (fall) and SWK 406 (spring) using the Field Final Evaluation as completed by the field supervisor. This evaluation measures the self-report of the supervisor for each practice behavior on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being lowest level of competency and 5 being the highest. This has been the standard assessment for accreditation for the past 10 years. SWK is accredited through the Council on Social Work Education, the body that sets our PLO's, Practice Behaviors, and benchmarks for assessment.

Additionally, students will be assessed on all PLO's in a comprehensive exam given to all students in Spring 2020 SWK Practice III (the departmental version of a senior seminar). This is a new requirement for accreditation being instituted for the first time this year.

As to trends, SWK is using new CSWE accreditation standards including new competencies and practice behaviors. However, these are similar to the previous standards so some trending data is evident. Over the past several years, student have scored consistently lower on two particular competencies: advancing human rights and engaging in policy practice. Our department will work to further address these three competencies in the curriculum and we will seek advice from the Social Work Field and Advisory Committee to address these areas in field.

For AY 2020/21, the Assessment Plan for the Social Work Department is to introduce assessment in early courses (not just senior courses 404, 404, and 405). This will be done using the comprehensive exam. Questions on the comprehensive exam will be delineated into different categories based on the PLO's above (5-8 questions per PLO) and this assessment questions will be given out in the major courses as follows:

1. Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior; (Early assessment in SWK 131)
2. Engage in diversity and difference in practice; (Early assessment in SWK 202)
3. Advance human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice; (Early assessment in SWK 200)
4. Engage in practice-informed research and research-informed practice; (Early assessment in SWK 400)
5. Engage in policy practice; (Early assessment in SWK 342)
6. Engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities; (Early assessment in SWK 316)
7. Assess individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities; (Early assessment in SWK 245)
8. Intervene with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities; (Early assessment in SWK 245)
9. Evaluate practices with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities; (Early assessment in SWK 316)

This will allow us to see what PLO's students are scoring lowest in and we can then adjust our senior level SWK courses (SWK 403, 404, 405, and 406) accordingly.

2. How are you planning to measure the learning outcomes (s)? (What object, i.e., test, project, presentation, etc., and with what tool, e.g., rubrics, item analysis, sampling, benchmarks, national norms, exams, juried review, etc.)

With the current field assessment, all students in the field courses will be included in the assessment, and the assessment will include scored Final Field Evaluation from their field instructors for both Fall 2019 and Spring 2020. The benchmark for the scores as noted by CSWE is a mean of 3.5 or higher for each competency based on aggregate scores of practice behaviors listed for that competency.

For the new Comprehensive Exam, which will be given for the first time in Spring 2020, the CSWE standard is that the average of all students' scores reach 75%.

For AY 20/21 when the department begins assessment in earlier courses using questions from the comprehensive exam, the same benchmark will be used (mean score of 75%) although this level of assessment is not required by the CSWE.

3. Who will be responsible for the analysis and how will results be analyzed? When will results be available?

For the Field Evaluation, data will be entered into SPSS software by the Field Instructor. The data will then be analyzed by the Department Chair. Data will be aggregated and an overall mean for each competency and practice behavior is reported for both fall and spring. Finally, the data from both semesters will be aggregated to determine an overall mean for each competency based on practice behavior scores for each student in SPSS. This data is then analyzed to report the percent of students whose aggregate scores on each competency over the 2 semester period are a 3.5 or higher with the benchmark being a 3.5 or higher for at least 85% of students. This final report for the data will be posted to the Social Work website by September of 2020.

For the Comprehensive Exam, the tests will be scored by the Instructor and entered into Excel. The data will be analyzed by the Department Chair to report a mean for the assessment for each competency (or PLO) and an overall mean for the entire exam. The benchmark for the mean is 75% on the exam. This final report for this data will be also posted to the Social Work website by September of 2020.

The assessment in earlier courses using questions from the comprehensive exam will have tests scored by the Instructor and entered into Excel. The data will be analyzed by the Department Chair to report a mean for the assessment for each competency (or PLO) and an overall mean for the entire exam. The benchmark for the mean is 75% on the exam.