

Report : Assessment Cycle Details for : Sociology

Report Generated by Taskstream

Workspace : Academic Program Assessment and Planning Workspace

Assessment Plan: 2017-2018 Assessment Cycle: Assessment Plan and Assessment Findings

Assessment Plan Template : IU Kokomo Academic Assessment Template

Report Generated : Thursday, May 31, 2018

Measures and Findings

Demo learning outcomes

Outcome

Gen Ed: Quantitative Literacy

Description of outcome

Mapped to:

No Mapping

Measure

Enter capstone assignment to assess the Gen Ed criteria (imbedded quiz)

COURSE LEVEL; DIRECT - EXAM

Details/Description :

provide more information about the measure - this will eb assessed using a five question survey, created by faculty

Acceptable Target :

enter concrete benchmark for performance measure to be at - at least 75% of students will score a 3 or higher

Implementation Plan (timeline) :

key dates and deadlines; course is offered fall semester/every semester/ and a random subset of this artifacts is assessed the following spring,

Key/Responsible Personnel :

all course instructors will grade their own students essays, and a committee of non faculty, who do not teach the course, will assess the random subject; committee is overseen by department chair.

Supporting Attachments :

Findings

for Enter capstone assignment to assess the Gen Ed criteria (imbedded quiz)

Summary of Findings :

actually found with the assessment. only 70% of students scored 3 or higher

Acceptable Target Achievement:

Not Met

Reflections/Notes :

this is still an improvement from last year, we believe we are reaching our target achievement level for next year.

Substantiating Evidence :

Action

in 2016 -2017 Academic year Data or 2016 Calendar year data - Action Plan

Introduce a new text book

Action details:

A new text book will be used in future sections of the course that is more student-friendly, presents additional learning aids, and online student resources.

Implementation Plan

(timeline):

The new text book will be used effective Spring 2018.

Key/Responsible

Personnel:

The instructor on record.

Measures:

Compare outcome measures that failed to meet the benchmark and assess if there is improvement.

Supporting Attachments:

Status

for Introduce a new text book

Current Status:

In Progress

Additional information:

The new text book has been adopted and is currently in place for this course (Spring 2018).

Next Steps:

Substantiating Evidence:

IU Kokomo General Education Outcomes (Copy 1)

Quantitative Literacy

Outcome 4: Students will use fundamental statistical information

Measure
Interpret tables and graphs

Component 1: Students will

COURSE LEVEL; DIRECT - STUDENT ARTIFACT

interpret data using tables and graphs (e.g. frequency tables, histograms).

Component 2: Students will compute and interpret basic descriptive statistics (e.g. mean, weighted mean, median, mode, standard deviation, percentiles).

Component 3: Students will understand basic concepts relating to sampling (populations/samples, random sampling).

Component 4: Students will use basic probability distributions (e.g. normal distribution, binomial distribution)

Component 5: Students will compute and interpret confidence intervals of a population parameter (e.g. proportion or mean)

Mapped to:

- **IU Kokomo General Education Outcomes (Copy 1):** Outcome 4: Students will use fundamental statistical information

Details/Description :

Students will be able to correctly analyze data to develop and interpret statistics graphs, charts, and tables.

Acceptable Target :

At least 75% of students will receiving a passing grade on homework and exams with regards to table, chart, and graph development and interpretation.

Implementation Plan (timeline):

Course is offered every spring semester. A random subset of artifacts are analyzed the following fall semester.

Key/Responsible Personnel:

All course instructors will grade their own student assignments.

Supporting Attachments:

Findings

for Interpret tables and graphs

Summary of Findings :

There was a total of 16 assessment surveys completed among 18 students enrolled in SOC-S355. There was one section of SOC-S355 offered and each student was given a chance to complete the assessment. Students were given two assignments to assess their ability to interpret graphs and tables. The mean score on both assignments for the development and interpretation of tables and graphs was 86%, exceeding the benchmark of 75% of students receiving a passing grade.

Acceptable Target Achievement:

Exceeded

Reflections/Notes :

This course is a core requirement for all sociology majors. The department is satisfied with the outcomes and findings and intends to continue assessing this outcomes as part of the course. This skill is necessary in future professional and educational pursuits.

Substantiating Evidence:

Measure

Students will compute and interpret basic descriptive statistics

COURSE LEVEL; DIRECT - STUDENT ARTIFACT

Details/Description :

Students will be taught to complete and interpret basic descriptive statistics like means, standard deviations, and correlations which lay the foundation for more high-order statistical analyses.

Acceptable Target :

At least 75% of students completing the course will pass with a passing grade as

determined by course homework and exams.

Implementation Plan (timeline):

The course is offered every spring semester.

Key/Responsible Personnel:

Course instructors will grade their students work. Faculty from the department will review a random sample of artifacts the following fall semester.

Supporting Attachments:

Findings

for Students will compute and interpret basic descriptive statistics

Summary of Findings :

There was a total of 16 assessment surveys completed among 18 students enrolled in SOC-S355. There was one section of SOC-S355 offered and each student was given a chance to complete the assessment. Students were given two assignments to assess their ability to compute and interpret basic descriptive statistics. The mean score on both assignments for the compute and interpret basic descriptive statistics was 90%, exceeding the benchmark of 75% of students receiving a passing grade.

Acceptable Target Achievement:

Exceeded

Reflections/Notes :

This course is a core requirement for all sociology majors. The department is satisfied with the outcomes and findings and intends to continue assessing this outcomes as part of the course. This skill is necessary in future professional and educational pursuits. Likewise, skills demonstrated for this outcome reflect skills that were established and mastered in a prerequisite course in Sociology (SOC-S252 Methods of Sociological Research).

Substantiating Evidence:

Measure

Students will compute and interpret confidence intervals of a population parameter

COURSE LEVEL; DIRECT - STUDENT ARTIFACT

Details/Description :

Students will identify concepts learned throughout the semester to create confidence intervals and interpret their meaning as it relates to statistical analysis.

Acceptable Target :

75% of students will receive a passing grade on the homework, exams, and research project.

Implementation Plan (timeline):

Course is offered every spring semester. Faculty will review the materials the following fall

semester.

Key/Responsible Personnel:

Course instructors will review the student artifacts, and faculty from the department will assess a sample of artifacts.

Supporting Attachments:

Findings

for Students will compute and interpret confidence intervals of a population parameter

Summary of Findings :

There was a total of 16 assessment surveys completed among 18 students enrolled in SOC-S355. There was one section of SOC-S355 offered and each student was given a chance to complete the assessment. Students were given two assignments to assess their ability to compute, analyze, and interpret confidence intervals. The mean score on both assignments for the development and interpretation of tables and graphs was 72%, which was short of the benchmark of 75% of students receiving a passing grade.

Acceptable Target Achievement:

Not Met

Reflections/Notes :

This is a particularly difficult concept for students to acquire, however the mean score indicates that students are grasping basic concepts of confidence intervals. After reflecting on the scores, the faculty agreed to continue assessing this outcome and instructors will incorporate additional learning tools to assist students.

Substantiating Evidence:

Measure

Students will use basic probability distributions

COURSE LEVEL; DIRECT - STUDENT ARTIFACT

Details/Description :

Students will complete homework assignments, develop research proposals, and take exams that incorporate probability distributions. They will need to collect, analyze, and correctly interpret data using probability distributions.

Acceptable Target :

At least 75% of students will pass the class after successfully demonstrating correct analysis and presentation of probability distributions via homework, research proposals, and exams.

Implementation Plan (timeline):

The course is offered every spring semester.

Key/Responsible Personnel:

Course instructors will assess student outcomes. Faculty from the department will review a sample of student work.

Supporting Attachments:

Findings

for Students will use basic probability distributions

Summary of Findings :

There was a total of 16 assessment surveys completed among 18 students enrolled in SOC-S355. There was one section of SOC-S355 offered and each student was given a chance to complete the assessment. Students were given two assignments to assess their ability to interpret graphs and tables. The mean score on both assignments for the development and interpretation of tables and graphs was 64%, failing to meet the benchmark of 75% of students receiving a passing grade.

Acceptable Target Achievement:

Not Met

Reflections/Notes :

This was the lowest assessment outcome score and indicates that students are struggling to develop a basic understanding of the material. The instructor will develop additional learning tools to improve assessments outcomes.

Substantiating Evidence:

❖ Social and Behavioral Sciences

Outcome 1: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the methods of inquiry used by social or behavioral scientists

Component 1: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the importance of systematic data collection.

Component 2: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the basic features of various research methods.

Mapped to:

- **IU Kokomo General Education Outcomes (Copy 1):** Outcome 1: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the methods of inquiry used by social or behavioral scientists

Measure

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the methods of inquiry used by social or behavioral scientists.

COURSE LEVEL; DIRECT - EXAM

Details/Description :

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the basic features of various research methods. Students will identify basic methodological approaches and describe the general role of methods in building sociological knowledge. Finally, students will understand ethical codes that govern the conduct of sociologists. Multiple sections of the course are offered every semester (fall, spring, and summer).

Acceptable Target :

At least 75% of students in SOC-S100 (Introduction to Sociology) SOC-S101 (Social Problems and Policies) will receiving a passing grade on questions that are embedded on an exam.

Implementation Plan (timeline):

Assessment questions will be embedded on exams that are administered throughout the course. There are multiple sections of this course; all instructors will use the same method of assessment for each section.

Key/Responsible Personnel:

Instructors on record will administer the exams with the assessment questions and report the outcomes to the department assessment coordinator for analysis; followed by a department level reflection and discussion for future action plans.

Supporting Attachments:

Findings

for Students will demonstrate an understanding of the methods of inquiry used by social or behavioral scientists.

Summary of Findings :

The Sociology Faculty collaborated and developed a set of six assessment questions that were embedded into a quiz for each section of SOC-S100 Introduction to Sociology course. There were 475 students enrolled in 15 sections of S100 over the 2016-2017 assessment year. In total, there were 397 students who completed the embedded assessment surveys. 87% of students correctly answered the survey question regarding methods of inquiry.

Acceptable Target Achievement:

Met

Reflections/Notes :

In each section of SOC-S100, students are introduced to the methods of inquiry as a unique topic, but are presented with unique examples, concepts, and theories that support this topic throughout the semester. Faculty believe this is an important concept to continue assessing and we will continue to incorporate innovative assignments to enhance this skill.

Substantiating Evidence:

Outcome 3: Students will demonstrate an understanding of behavior using social or behavioral science concepts

Component 1: Students will demonstrate an understanding of important concepts, theories, and empirical patterns.
Component 2: Students will be able to apply concepts and theories to novel situations.

Mapped to:

- **IU Kokomo General Education Outcomes (Copy 1):** Outcome 3: Students will demonstrate an understanding of behavior using social or behavioral science

Measure

Students will demonstrate an understanding of behavior using social or behavioral science concepts.

COURSE LEVEL; DIRECT - EXAM

Details/Description :

Students will be asked to define the discipline of sociology, sociological perspective, and the contribution to our understanding of social reality. Furthermore, students will demonstrate how social change factors, such as population, urbanization, or technology affect social structure and individuals and how internal diversity of U.S. society and the significance of variations by race/ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class, age can be explained by social or behavioral sciences.

Acceptable Target :

At least 75% of students in SOC-S100 (Introduction to Sociology) and SOC-S101 (Social Problems and Policies) will receiving a passing grade on questions that are embedded on an exam.

Implementation Plan (timeline):

Assessment questions will be embedded on exams that are administered throughout the course. There are multiple sections of this course; all instructors will use the same method of assessment for each section.

Key/Responsible Personnel:

Instructors on record will administer the exams with the assessment questions and report the outcomes to the department assessment coordinator for analysis; followed by a department level reflection and discussion for future action plans.

Supporting Attachments:

Findings

for Students will demonstrate an understanding of behavior using social or behavioral science concepts.

Summary of Findings :

The Sociology Faculty collaborated and developed a set of six assessment questions that were embedded into a quiz for each section of SOC-S100 Introduction to Sociology course. There were 475 students enrolled in 15 sections of S100 over the 2016-2017 assessment year. In total, there were 397 students who completed the embedded assessment surveys. 82% percent of students correctly answered questions regarding the core theories introduced in an Introduction to Sociology course.

Acceptable Target Achievement:

Met

Reflections/Notes :

Students are introduced to three overarching theories at the beginning of the course and spend the entire semester returning to these theories to describe social phenomena. Grasping the theoretical meanings and applications is challenging for students given the broad nature of the course. However, faculty feel a basic understanding of these concepts are essential to the foundation of a degree in sociology and will continue to provide instruction on this desired outcome.

Substantiating Evidence: