

Undergraduate Psychology Department Assessment Plan

Course assessment occurs through a variety of measures depending upon the preference of the faculty. All assessment however is directly related to and assesses course student learning outcomes as indicated in the syllabus. Each of the courses are linked to program student learning outcomes and develops the appropriate skills and competencies for program learning outcomes via the course student learning outcomes. This assessment occurs throughout the course.

Program assessment is cumulative and occurs in the Capstone course Psychology 490 Senior Seminar in Psychology. This course is offered once a year during the Spring Day term and once/twice a year, depending on need in the accelerated evening undergraduate program. Program assessment assesses the following program learning outcomes

Program Student Learning Outcomes

Student will demonstrate an understanding of

1. The Scientific Method and its Application in the Field of Psychology

a. Skills and competencies in this area are primarily developed in the required courses of PSY 315 Statistics and PSY 316 Research Methods in Psychology. They are also addressed in all psychology courses. **Six Credits.**

2. Life Span Development

a. Skills and competencies in this area are primarily developed in the required courses of PSY 200 Life Span Development, PSY 321 Personality, and PSY 424 Abnormal Psychology. **Nine Credits.**

3. Applied Psychology

a. Skills and competencies in this area are primarily developed in the required courses of PSY 434 Organizational Psychology and PSY 451 Health and Stress Psychology. **Six Credits.**

4. Counseling Theory

a. Skills and competencies in this area are primarily developed in the required course of PSY 406 Counseling Psychology. **Three Credits.**

5. Social and Cross-Cultural Psychology

a. Skills and competencies in this area are primarily developed in the required course of PSY 322 Social Psychology. With the exception of PSY 315 Statistics, cross-cultural issues are discussed in all classes. **Three Credits.**

6. Psychology as an Integrated System

a. Skills and competencies in this area are primarily developed in the required course of PSY 490 Senior Seminar in Psychology. **Three Credits.**

7. Specific Focuses in Psychology

a. Skills and competencies in this area are primarily developed in the three required elective courses in Psychology. **Nine Credits.**

As previously noted these Program Student Learning Outcomes are operationalized through the syllabi as Course Student Learning Outcomes. In addition, each Psychology Program course syllabi has a linking statement to one or more of the Program Student Learning Outcomes.

Assessment

Program student learning outcomes are assessed cumulatively, once a year, in the Capstone Course PSY 490 Senior Seminar in Psychology:

PSY 490 Senior Seminar in Psychology (3). This is a capstone course that collaboratively explores the relationship between the core and elective psychology courses for students majoring in psychology. This course will guide the student toward developing an understanding of the relationship and application of the course work they have taken in the field of psychology.

Assessment Tools administered in PSY 490 Senior Seminar in Psychology

1. A research paper that integrates the core and elective courses relative to a common thread weaving through the field of psychology.
2. A paper that examines the relationship between the field of psychology and the five Marianist educational values.
3. A 50 item multiple choice comprehensive exam that covers the program student learning outcomes.
4. An exit survey