Fall 2012 SLO/PLO ASSESSMENT REPORT

Date: Fall 2012

Name of Person Reporting: Chris Williams/ Myriam Levy

Name of Department and/or Discipline: Psychology

1. **What courses/certificates/programs have you assessed this past semester?**

   Psychology 41- Lifespan Psychology, and Psychology 52 were assessed during the Fall 2012 semester. Further, ILO assessment in oral communication were completed in Psych 2.

2. **Summarize the analysis of your assessment results for courses in your area.**

   **Psychology 41 (Spring 2012)**

   Two SLO’s were assessed through a short-answer quiz at the beginning of two classes in November. The student’s were able to accurately define and explain one theory of lifespan development since at least three theories are covered in-depth (Erikson, Piaget, and Vygotsky). In future assessments, particular concepts of each theory will continue to be explored (Zone of Proximal Development, Defense Mechanisms, and Autonomy versus Shame and Doubt etc.) to determine the depth of student knowledge and understanding. A compare and contrast question was also placed on both the mid-term and the final to assess the students’ understanding of psychological development. No adjuncts teach Lifespan Development so they did not have anything to report.

   **Psychology 52 (Spring 2012)**

   Four SLO’s (understand the role of the Scientific Method on human sexuality) were assessed through group presentations and a final at the end of the semester. Each presentation appropriately conveyed the correct application of the Scientific Method on human sexuality (reports, observations, interviews and experiments). The students’ were given creative license with the presentations. The presentations covered SLO’s two, three, four, and five. Many avenues were demonstrated through the use of group presentation, i.e. PowerPoint, lectured, short films, etc; some students even participated in a mock Scientific collection exercise (they created a survey for distribution to close friends, based on an outlined given to them from previous class exercises). In the future, different assessment methods may be employed (essays, journals, and more presentation, perhaps utilizing some type of Social Media), however the group presentations seem to allow for a comprehensive overview of student knowledge. No adjuncts teach Human Sexuality so they did not have anything to report.
ILO assessment in oral communication showed 79% competency in Psych 2 course which shows that students in the Psychology major tend to be older, more prepared, and probably possessed skills obtained from outside of academia. Or they have already completed Speech 101 and are better prepared or have completed more classes, than non-major or undecided students.

3. **How have the results of your assessments been shared and discussed among the members of your program? (Provide dates and any minutes of meetings.)**
   
   Discussions of SLO’s have been conducted through informal meetings and email communications between psychology instructors. In addition, both instructors who teach Psychology 52 and 41 have had contact throughout the semester to discuss future development within the discipline. Further, faculty may decide to increase oral presentations in more classes, than currently. A meeting is planned for the Psychology discipline to meet in the Spring of 2013.

4. **How have the results of your assessments been shared and discussed with members of your advisory committee (if vocational program)?**

   None apply.

5. **Based on the discussion and analysis of your assessment results, what changes have you made or do you plan to make? (Please provide dates, description of changes, and person responsible.)**

   Analysis of the SLO’s resulted in more communication between faculty to implement various teaching strategies in the classes (group presentations, poster board sessions, journal reviews, and more emphasis on difficult concepts in lectures). In addition, added emphasis on resources (such as tutoring, and initiation of research in the library) continue to be initiated in an attempt to assist the students with resource allocation for future assignments. Any suggestions for future analysis or changes to the curriculum are sent to me and are further discussed with the department chair.

6. **What resource requests are planned as a result of the assessments?**

   Long term requests to increase awareness of services in LRC for tutoring hours.

7. **Have the assessment results been posted on the online system?**

   The assessments will be posted before the beginning of the Spring 2013 semester.