

Volume 1 | Issue 2
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SUCCESSMENT

CONCORD UNIVERSITY'S
ASSESSMENT NEWSLETTER

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Upcoming

The goal of this newsletter is to promote better awareness and understanding of assessment, and to keep Concord faculty, staff, and students informed on important and relevant information related to assessment and accountability.

What's Happening in Assessment

Minor Assessment Plans Reviewed

Academic programs across campus have been busy during the 2020-2021 academic year with preparing minor assessment plans so that assessment and collection of data can begin Fall 2021. Currently, Concord University offers approximately 32 minors. 81% of all minors submitted an assessment plan by May 7 to be reviewed by the University Assessment committee.

Concord University received an assessment mini grant from the HEPC for the purpose of performing assessment activities during summer months. Concord used these funds to support faculty who gathered for a minor assessment review day to evaluate and provide useful feedback on the submitted minor assessment plans.

Faculty evaluated submitted plans looking for content including measurable student learning outcomes, an outlined data collection process, explanation of how data will be analyzed, and results used. Feedback from the committee was emailed shortly after the meeting to the department chairs or responsible faculty.

Assessment Handbook Revised

Another major 20-21 initiative within the University Assessment Committee was to revise/update the current Assessment Handbook. The committee read, edited, provided feedback, and completed an updated handbook that is now located on the University Assessment webpage. Major topics in the handbook are:

- Assessment Basics
- Getting Started
- Assessment Tools
- Implementation
- Assessment at Concord University

You can find the new handbook on the University Assessment webpage under Assessment Resources.

<https://www.concord.edu/About/History-Future/University-Assessment.aspx>

UPCOMING **Assessment Tip of the Month**

2021-2022 **Engaging Student Learning**

5-Year Program Reviews Learners must participate in learning independence, understand their strengths, weaknesses, learning processes, demonstrate ability to select suitable learning strategies while working in a group to develop interpersonal and active listening skills (Kiran, 2020). Whether you call this type of learning ‘active learning, self-managed learning, learner-centered’, all are synonyms with subtle distinctions, resulting in knowledge acquisition processes relevant to today’s student temperaments (Kiran, 2020).

BS – Computer Information Systems For students to be active learners, they must first pay attention. Kiran (2020) suggested a few of the following techniques for grabbing student’s attention:

BS – Chemistry **Make it Meaningful:** If student teams do not consider a learning activity praiseworthy of their time and effort, they might not engage in an adequate way, or may even disengage entirely in response.

BS – Computer Science **Foster a Sense of Competence:** Throughout the activity call them by names. Manage small talks or at least greet them. Encourage them while voicing their opinions. Throughout the activity call them by names. Manage small talks or at least greet them. Encourage them while voicing their opinions.

BS – Environmental Geosciences **Provide Autonomy Support:** When teachers give up some control (without losing power) to the students, engagement levels likely increase as a result. Faculty should use supportive strategies that revolve around finding ways to nurture, support, and increase students’ inner motivation of their classroom activity.

Embrace Collaborative Learning: When students work effectively with others, their engagement may be amplified as a result. Student centered techniques need to be incorporated into classroom resources to encourage student choice and autonomy using open-ended questioning techniques for student reflection; explicit instruction; group projects, self-paced assignments, community-based activities, and service-learning projects.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Moving from traditional lecturing from the podium, a kind of student centric approach has found to be a crucial step in fostering independent learning (Kiran, 2020).

Contact

Reference
Kiran, S. D. S. (2020). Learner-Centered Approach: Engaging Students in Learning Activities. IUP Journal of Soft Skills, 14(1), 55–66.

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