



## It's March Madness in Gen Ed Assessment



Jennifer Summary, Ph.D.  
Chair, Learning Assessment  
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Welcome to the March 2023 issue of DataVersed! On behalf of the Learning Assessment Committee (LAC), and the Office of Assessment and Effectiveness (AASPIRE), we hope your spring semester is turning out to be a slam dunk!

March is an exciting month, filled with spring break, Saint Patrick's Day, and one of my favorite events, March Madness. While my bracket is often busted way too soon, I'm hoping for better results this time around. Speaking of results, LAC members will begin their annual review of assignments submitted this month until April 14th. We'll be assessing the visualize and engage competencies this round.

For those unfamiliar with the process, around forty artifacts will be scored per person with committee members working in pairs to ensure the validity of the data. A General Education Assessment report is later generated for each academic year and is available for individuals to review.

The assessment process can be a bit intimidating for those unfamiliar with the multi-layered process at FSW. However, fear not, Amy Trogan, is here! In this newsletter, our former chair of LAC, and current English professor, Professor Trogan provides us with valuable information regarding our Assessment 101 Canvas course, which will be making a return this April.

We'd also like to invite you to two professional development sessions on the visualize and engage assignments. These sessions will take place on March 31st at 10 am and 11 am via Zoom, as advertised with the TLC.

On behalf of the LAC and AASPIRE team, we hope you have a great March and enjoy whatever March Madness you experience!

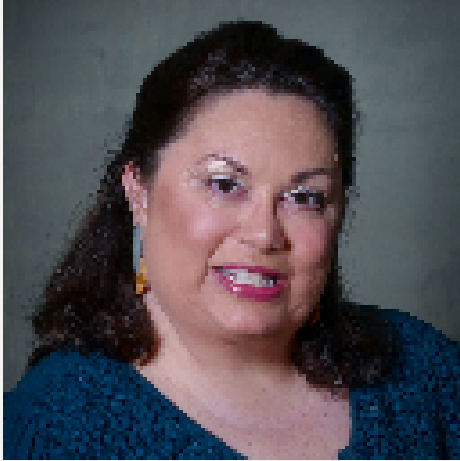
All the best,  
Jennifer Summary, Ph.D.  
Professor, Communication Studies  
LAC Chair

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# Assessment 101: An Opportunity to Learn Assessment at FSW



Amy Lynn Trogan, Ed. D.  
Professor of English  
Creator, Assessment 101  
LAC Member

When I started full time at FSW, I was encouraged to join the Learning Assessment Committee. When I say “encouraged,” many of you may remember how persuasive Professor Marty Ambrose can be. One of the reasons LAC seemed like a good fit is I have a doctorate in Education, so Marty assumed I knew a thing or two about assessment. I had even convinced myself that I knew I “a thing or two” about assessment. As soon as I got involved, I realized that I had a considerable amount to learn. Once Dr. van Gaalen came on board, I realized that I knew very little. Fortunately, my superpower is teachability, and I have learned a thing or two about assessment.

When I was LAC Chair, one of my projects was to develop an assessment workshop for all faculty. As a committee, we understand that not all faculty understand how assessment works at FSW or why we engage in multi-layered assessment processes. With the help of many generous and brilliant individuals on the committee, Assessment 101 was developed. This project never would have been completed without the help of its many contributors, such as Dr. Joseph van Gaalen, Dr. Eileen DeLuca, Professor Donald Ransford, Dr. Katie Pachall, and Professor Myra Walters.

Last year, the committee realized that it was time for an update on beloved workshop because assessment has evolved at both the institutional and state level. Some of the workshop is unchanged, so the aforementioned individuals’ contributions remain intact. Some sections had to be almost entirely revamped, such as the General Education Module. I was responsible for the content updates, while Professor Fernando Mayoral helped me look at the activities and presentations with fresh eyes. He was always there to ask the questions that took the workshop to the next level. Our talented instructional designer, Nancy Schumacher, also gave the workshop a new look and updated the presentations. As a team, we have made the workshop more informational and engaging.



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## Assessment 101 *continued from previous page*

Is it time for you to learn “a thing or two” about assessment and how it works at FSW? If so, then please consider taking Assessment 101. We have designed it to be self-paced, streamlined, and online for your convenience. Besides the “how,” the workshop also will provide insight on the relevant “why.” At FSW, we are relentless about “closing the loop” on our assessment practices because we value impactful methods that positively affect our classrooms and student achievement. How does Team AASPIRE and the Learning Assessment Committee make that happen? Assessment 101 will answer that and more in approximately five hours of your time! If you are interested in taking the workshop, stay tuned for more information, soon.



Fernando Mayoral  
Profesor de español  
Chair, Department of  
Communication Studies and  
Foreign Languages

## Assessment Terms

**Assessment:** The systematic collection, review, and use of information about educational programs undertaken for the purpose of improving student learning and development.

**Benchmark:** A description or example of candidate or institutional performance that serves as a standard of comparison for evaluation or judging quality.

**Formative Evaluation:** Improvement-oriented assessment. The use of a broad range of instruments and procedures during a course of instruction or during a period of organizational operations in order to facilitate mid-course adjustments.

**Institutional Effectiveness:** The measure of what an institution actually achieves.

**Learning Outcomes:** Observable behaviors or actions on the part of students that demonstrate that the intended learning objective has occurred.

**Measurements:** Design of strategies, techniques and instruments for collecting feedback data that evidence the extent to which students demonstrate the desired behaviors.

**Methods of Assessment:** Techniques or instruments used in assessment.

**Reliability:** Reliable measures are measures that produce consistent responses over time.

**Rubrics:** Written and shared for judging performance that indicate the qualities by which levels of performance can be differentiated, and that anchor judgments about the degree of achievement.

**Teaching-Improvement Loop:** Teaching, learning, outcomes assessment, and improvement may be defined as elements of a feedback loop in which teaching influences learning, and the assessment of learning outcomes is used to improve teaching and learning.

**Validity:** As applied to a test refers to a judgment concerning how well a test does in fact measure what it purports to measure.

# Learning Assessment Committee 2022-2023

Member	Department or Division	Role
Summary, Jennifer	Communication Studies	Committee Chairperson
Barnard, D'ariel	Team AASPIRE	Ex-officio
Batiato, Dolores	Business	General Member
Cabral, Krissy	Crime Scene Technology	Coordinator
Carlson, Meghan	Mathematics	General Member
Charles, Jane	Libraries	Coordinator
Churchill, Tina	Mathematics	General Member
Conwell, Mary	Paralegal, Arch., Const., Engineering	Coordinator
Donaldson, Tom	Social Sciences	General Member
Godwin, Jessica	Team AASPIRE	Observer
Harrington, Monique	Humanities	Coordinator
Hester, Renee	Academic Success	Coordinator
Hopkins, Rushell	Computer Technology	Coordinator
Kelvin, Bill	Communication Studies	Coordinator
Marius Coman	Biology/Chemistry/Physics	Coordinator
Mayoral, Fernando	Foreign Language	Coordinator
Minardi-Power, Cara	English	Coordinator
Moore, Colleen	Health Professions	Coordinator
Moran, Kristi	Mathematics	Coordinator
Patterson, Jennifer	Accounting, Bus., Management	Coordinator
Seefchak, Caroline	Education	Coordinator
Seelau, Eric	Social Sciences	Coordinator
Such, Tami	Dean, Health Sciences	Ex-officio
Trogan, Amy	English	General Member
van Gaalen, Joseph	A.V.P., Team ASSPIRE	Ex-officio
Worch, Richard	Criminal Justice/Public Admin.	Coordinator
Zamor, Terry	Mathematics	General Member



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