

General Education Assessment

AY 2016-2017

Florida SouthWestern State College initiated a revised assessment of the General Education Program beginning in the 2014-2015 academic year. This process provided the baseline data for the continuous improvement cycle in the academic unit.

The General Education Assessment Subcommittee of the Learning Assessment Committee reviewed several commonly-used assessment processes and supports the following approach, based on the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Value Rubric implementation model. This is a faculty-driven model which involves measuring achievement of General Education Competencies through locally designed assignments and assessments. In order to encourage college-wide representation, participating faculty will be credited with College Service.

Based on a review of the 2015-2016 General Education assessment study, the Learning Assessment Committee identified “Critical Thinking” and “Quantitative Reasoning” as the focus for AY 2016-2017. We are asking all full-time and adjunct faculty to submit artifacts (either from new or existing assignments) that, in their opinion, best represents attainment of the “Critical Thinking” or “Quantitative Reasoning” General Education Competencies. Any assignment—from short-answer quizzes, to essays, projects, or videotaped presentations—will be acceptable.

How to Participate

We ask that faculty send in their assignment guidelines to their Departmental Assessment Coordinators by Friday, October 21, to give the Learning Assessment Committee time to review them, create a program map, and ensure all disciplines are represented. Faculty will then submit all the ungraded artifacts with student IDs only (no names) from the selected class sections to the Assessment Coordinators at the end of fall semester. Faculty who submit assignments and artifacts will receive a certificate for College Service.

Your assistance in this assessment project is most appreciated!

A sample General Education Assignment Submission Form is shown on the next page.

Support for General Education Assessment and course-level assessment is provided by:

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References:

Braselton, M. “Using AAC&U Value Rubrics. Case Study: Midland College.”
<https://www.aacu.org/VALUE/casestudies/midland.pdf>

Rhodes, T. & Finley, A. (2013) Using the VALUE Rubrics for Improvement of Learning and Authentic Assessment. AAC & U.