

Academic Assessment Update

March 2016

Professional Development in Support of Learning Assessment Committee Initiatives

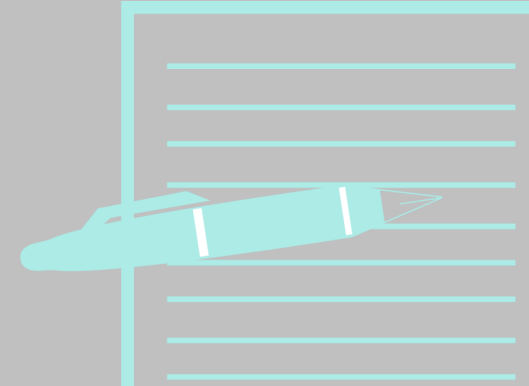
Based on the results of the 2014-2015 General Education pilot, the Learning Assessment Committee has chosen two areas of focus for professional development initiatives: Communication and Scientific and Quantitative Reasoning. Below is a description of two of the upcoming workshops offered by LAC members and faculty from across the disciplines.

Developing Effective Research Assignment Guidelines

Friday, April 8, 11 a.m.

Location: AA-177

Facilitators: Dr. Amy Trogan, Dr. Scott Ortolano, Arenthia Herren, and Cynthia Enslin.



When we develop a research assignment, we know what skills and knowledge students should master. Developing assignment guidelines that encompass everything we want our students to learn is a difficult task. If we are not clear and comprehensive, our students will often fail to meet our expectations. At this workshop, various types of research assignments will be discussed – essays, oral and visual presentations, etc. A panel of cross-disciplinary faculty will share their own guidelines, offer suggestions for taking current assignments to the next level, and facilitate an open forum. The participants are the academic experts in their respective disciplines; therefore, they will be encouraged to bring their own assignments and ideas to share.

Quantitative Reasoning in Non-STEM and STEM Courses

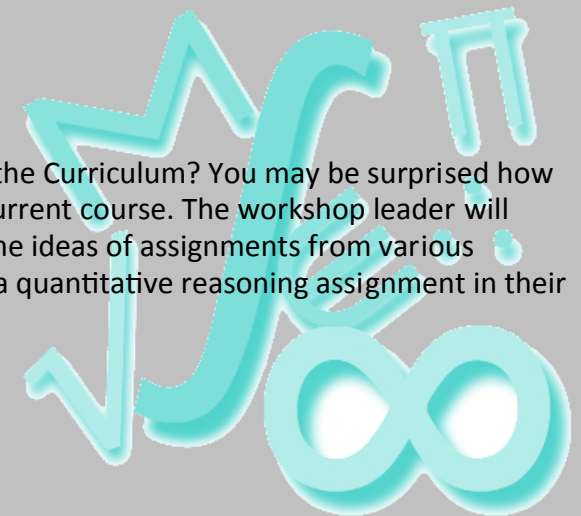
Monday, Monday, April 18, 1-2 PM

Location: AA-168 (Polycom locations: Charlotte E-105; Collier G-109; HG A-106)

Facilitator: Don Ransford



First, there was Writing across the Curriculum. So, how about Quantitative Reasoning across the Curriculum? You may be surprised how easily higher-order quantitative reasoning tasks and projects can be incorporated into your current course. The workshop leader will describe quantitative reasoning, review the College's quantitative reasoning rubric, share some ideas of assignments from various disciplines that have already been tried, and ask participants to develop at least one idea for a quantitative reasoning assignment in their own discipline.



Session Goals:

1. Define quantitative reasoning
2. Discuss FSW's Quantitative Reasoning (QR) rubric
3. Contemplate existing QR assignments from various disciplines
4. Create new QR assignments

Visit www.fsw.edu/tlc for more information about these and other professional development opportunities.

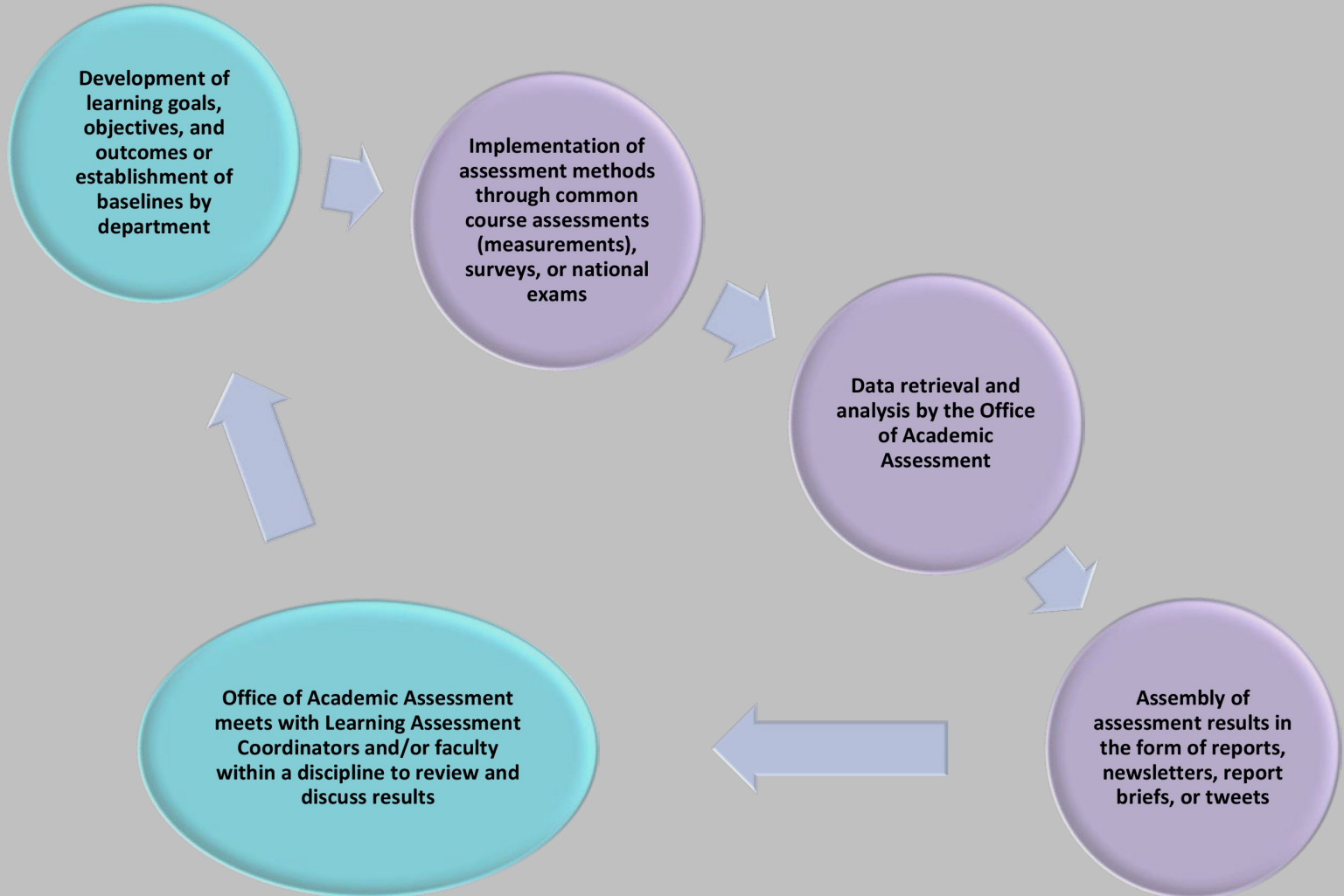
This time of year is when assessment draws a cycle to a close and begins anew (teal portions of the diagram below). The Office of Academic Assessment website houses information on what this means, how to go about working with assessment information, as well as copies of the assessment reports issued to your department. Director Joseph van Gaalen and Analyst Allison Studer are always available to help you take the next step in your process whether it is a visit to your department meeting to provide course-level assessment support, or an individual consultation on building assessment tools, administering those assessments, and analyzing the results to inform course and program improvement.



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<http://www.fsw.edu/facultystaff/assessment/courselevel>