

From the Office of Academic Assessment

Online or Traditional – Where Does Most Learning Happen?



Dr. Joseph van Gaalen
Director of Assessment and Effectiveness

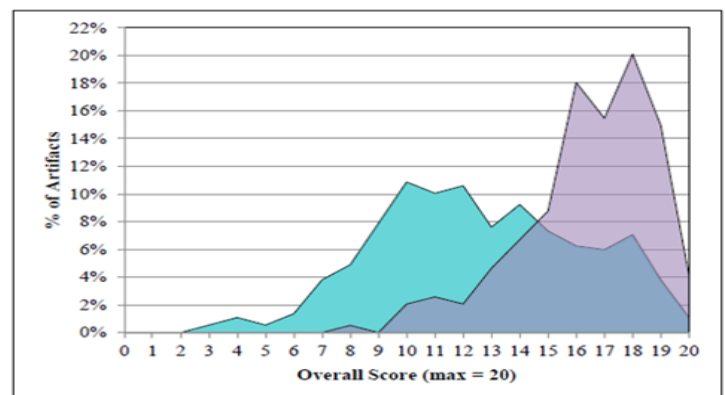
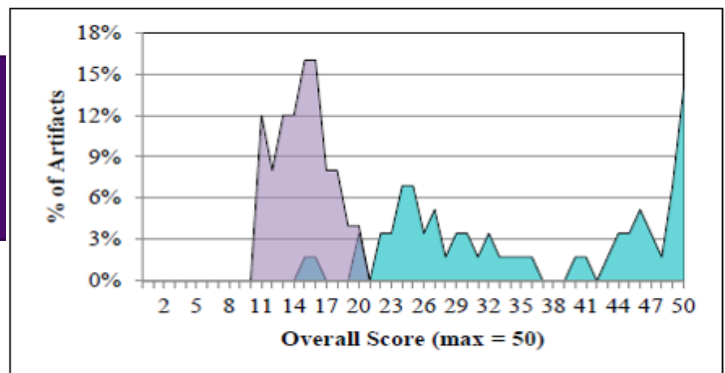
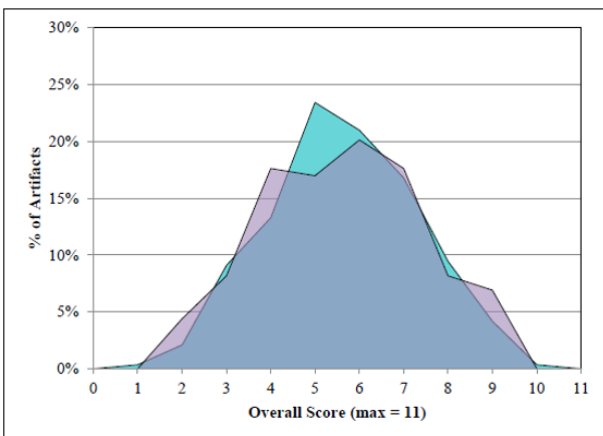
One of the insider points for any faculty member who teaches both online and traditional to know is which course typically sees stronger results -- the online, or the traditional. But did you know that the results you see or assume are not universal, college-wide?

In the charts below we see a distribution of scores for online and traditional sections of the course from three different disciplines at Florida SouthWestern State College. In each we see a drastically different comparison. In one case, the online sections (purple) exhibit a curve shifted towards much higher scores than traditional (aqua). In another, we see it nearly dead-even. In a third, we see just the opposite.

Why does it vary so greatly? It might be that the conveying of knowledge simply hasn't translated well from traditional to online. It might be that the assessment doesn't translate very well. It might be that the course tends to have a different demographic for online than traditional. All of these are possible answers.

Take a look at your discipline's study. What do you see and why? Don't have a study? We welcome you at the Office of Academic Assessment to get to the bottom of this riddle!

Distribution of scores from three different disciplines at FSW. Online sections are in purple; traditional sections are in aqua.



LAC Welcomes Nursing Professor



Patricia Arcidiacono
Professor of Nursing

Learning Assessment Committee member Pat Arcidiacono, MSN, RN, came to Southwest Florida fifteen years ago to retire. In 2004, while at the Marco Island YMCA, she saw a woman reading a nursing textbook. She asked her where there was a nursing program, and Professor Arcidiacono has been at FSW on the Collier campus ever since.

Originally from New Jersey, she attended a hospital-based nursing program directly from high school, and three years later became a Registered Nurse. “My mother recalls me saying that I wanted to teach nursing someday,” she said. “Realizing that I would need a college degree if I wanted to further my nursing opportunities, I returned to college and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Fairleigh Dickinson University and a Master of Arts degree in Nursing Education from New York University.”

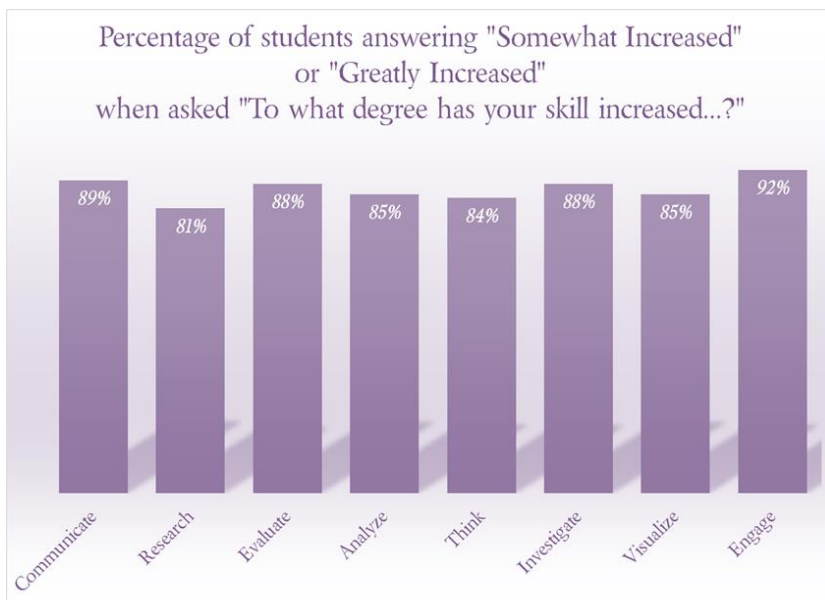
She has been an RN for 43 years and has taught nursing for 33 of those years. Her specialty is medical-surgical nursing. Although she has taught a variety of courses in the FSW AS Nursing Program, her main responsibility has been to the first semester of the program. In the first semester, Level I, she teaches in the didactic, clinical, simulation, and practicum laboratory environments. In 2013, Professor Arcidiacono was awarded Faculty of the Year on the Collier Campus.

In addition to several nursing program committees, she is a member of the National League for Nursing, the Collier Nurses Association, and is on the Patient Safety Council of Naples Community Hospital. The Learning Assessment Committee is her first FSW committee. “I look forward to representing the AS Nursing Program and working with faculty from other campuses,” she said.

Assessment Snapshot

FSW Students Note Increased Skill

Compiled from responses to the 2017 AA Completer Survey question “To what degree has your skill increased in the following areas as a result of completing your degree at FSW?” where a question prompt typical of the eight competencies describes the field rather than competency type. For example, “Analyze” would read “Effectively analyzing and critiquing works of art, literature, or performance.” Options to the survey question include “No change”, “Somewhat increased”, or “Greatly increased.”



Know Your Department's LAC Committee Members



Dr. Caroline Seefchak
Professor of Education
and LAC Chair

The Learning Assessment Committee is comprised of three types of members. Assessment Coordinators are committee members who have been selected or elected to oversee assessments in their departments. General Members represent their departments in working on the committee and provide support to the Assessment Coordinators. Ex-officio members are generally non-faculty members who enrich and serve on the committee.

Get to know the assessment representatives in your academic areas. They can help you develop plans for assessment strategies, rubrics, and methods for using data to make changes in the delivery of course material to promote student success. Along with the Office of Academic Assessment, LAC members throughout the College are there to support you.

Marty Ambrose	English General Member, former Chair	Colleen Moore	Health Professions Assessment Coordinator
Patricia Arcidiacono	Health Professions General Member	Dr. Shawn Moore	English Assessment Coordinator
Dr. Marius Coman	Science Assessment Coordinator	Dr. Kristi Moran	Mathematics Assessment Coordinator
Dr. John Connell	Speech/Foreign Language General Member	Dr. Katie Paschall	Speech/Foreign Language Assessment Coordinator
Jane Charles	Library Assessment Coordinator	Jennifer Patterson	Business & Tech General Member
Dr. Eileen DeLuca	Associate VPAA, Academic Affairs	Dr. Elijah Pritchett	Humanities/Fine Arts Assessment Coordinator
Thomas Donaldson	Social Sciences General Member	Dr. Caroline Seefchak	Education LAC Committee Chair
Dr. Erik Fay	Science General Member	Dr. Eric Seelau	Social Sciences Assessment Coordinator
Dr. Julia Kroecker	Education Assessment Coordinator	William Stoudt	Mathematics General Member
Margaret Kruger	Health Professions General Member	Allison Studer	Academic Assessment and Effectiveness,
Fernando Mayoral	Speech/Foreign Language Assessment Coordinator	Dr. Amy Trogan	English General Member, former Chair
Dr. Lisa McGarity	Science General Member	Dr. Joseph van Gaalen	Director, Academic Assessment & Effectiveness
Barb Miley	Accountability, Ex officio Member	Dr. Richard Worch	Business & Tech Assessment Coordinator



It is the time of year for us to say:

Happy Holidata

With best wishes for happiness aligned with good cheer!

From the

LEARNING ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

Caroline Seefchak, Chair

Marty Ambrose, Patricia Arcidiacono, Marius Coman, John Connell, Jane Charles, Eileen DeLuca, Thomas Donaldson, Erik Fay, Julia Kroeker, Margaret Kruger, Fernando Mayoral, Lisa McGarity, Barb Miley, Colleen Moore, Shawn Moore, Kristi Moran, Jennifer Patterson, Katie Paschall, Eric Seelau, Allison Studer, William Stoudt, Amy Trogan, Joseph van Gaalen, Richard Worch

FLORIDA
SOUTHWESTERN
STATE COLLEGE

