SLS 1515 Course Level Assessment Report – Fall 2021 Author: Joseph F. van Gaalen, Ph.D., Asst. VP, Institutional Research, Assessment & Effectiveness

Florida SouthWestern State College's Cornerstone assessment plan includes collection of achievement data to measure the efficacy of the first-year experience course SLS 1515 *Cornerstone Experience*. Upon successful completion of the Cornerstone Experience course, students will demonstrate their acquisition of analytical and evaluation skills; students will apply these acquired skills to guide their thinking, behavior, and attitude. Additionally, upon successful completion of the Cornerstone Experience course, students will take ownership over their own learning experiences, will apply newly acquired strategies to their academic endeavors, and approach their professional pursuits with confidence. As per the QEP, stated goals were tracked for 5 years (2012-2017) and continue to be tracked since then.

To measure these outcomes, the following objectives or goal has been set:

 Final Essay-Scored with Critical Thinking Rubric: For each term (Fall 2021, Spring 2022), 70% of students who complete the course will achieve a 3 or higher on all relevant aspects of the Final Essay rubric.

During the Fall 2021 semester, 141 course sections were run with a total enrollment of 3476. A total of 1193 artifacts for the Final Essay. Many courses did not have the rubrics linked with the outcomes so data could not be collected.

Mean scores of the Final Essays for the Fall 2021 in comparison with previous years is shown in Figure 1. The percentage of students achieving "3" or higher on all relevant aspects of the rubric for the Final Essay assignment for Fall 2021 in comparison with previous years is shown in Figure 2. The goal that 70% of students who complete the course will achieve a "3" (accomplished) or higher on all relevant aspects of the rubric for the Final Essay assignment was met for the Fall 2021 term.

In the 15 terms of study for the final essay, the mean scores for the four rubric dimensions (Clarity, Relevance, Significance, and Logic) for the Fall 2021 term rank 10th, 4th, 2nd, and 4th, respectively. In the 15 terms of study for the final essay, the percentage of scores at '3 or higher' for the four rubric dimensions (Clarity, Relevance, Significance, and Logic) for the Fall 2021 term rank 10th, 8th, 3rd, and 4th, respectively.

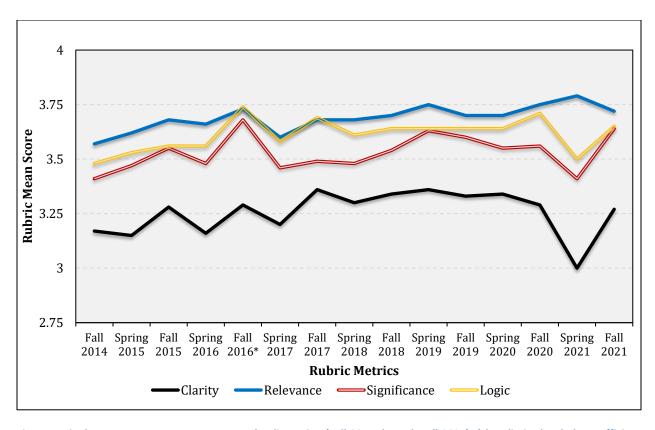


Figure 1. Final Essays Assessment mean scores by dimension (Fall 2014 through Fall 2021). *data limited to below sufficient sample size due to technical errors in data extraction.

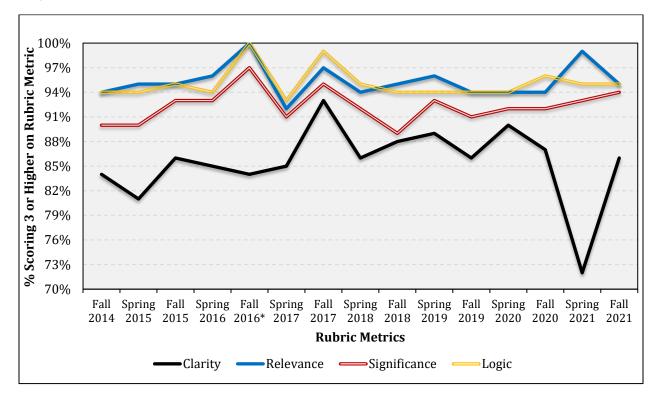


Figure 2. Final Essays percentage of assignments achieving "3" or higher by dimension (Fall 2014 through Fall 2021). *data limited to below sufficient sample size due to technical errors in data extraction.