



Measure Twice, Cut Once

Biannual Newsletter from the Office of Assessment

Fall 2023 Volume 1



WELCOME BACK,

Happy (almost) fall semester! On behalf of the Office of Assessment, we hope you had a chance to relax this summer and are feeling prepared for a new term. We have created and relocated assessment resources to make them most convenient for you and your department members. This newsletter and our *brand new* eLC course are meant to bring assessment resources straight to you in the most convenient digital places. This newsletter will be shared once a semester to highlight need-to-know information, assessment changes, and important deadlines. We will also use this newsletter to recognize the great assessment work going on around campus. All resources shared in the newsletter will be archived on eLC for quick reference. We look forward to another great year of supporting you as you support students.

Sincerely,
Katie & Deenene

MEET YOUR ASSESSMENT STAFF

Katie Burr, Ph.D., **Director of Assessment**



Katie began her current role at UGA in 2020 after earning her PhD from UGA's Mary Frances Early College of Education. With a background in higher education and student affairs, she leads campus-wide efforts to assess student learning. This includes supporting program coordinators in

learning outcomes assessment, facilitating semesterly assessment of general education and institutional competencies, and leading the approach to evaluate the impact of active learning. Outside of work, Katie enjoys running (especially the AthHalf every fall), dancing, and spending time with her husband, Jon, and two daughters, Ruth (6) and Eliza (2).

Deenene Brewer, MPH, **Assessment Coordinator**



Deenene joined the Office of Assessment in September 2022. With a background in exercise science, communication, and education she collects, analyzes, and reports on data related to the Active Learning Quality Enhancement Plan. She is

a Double Dawg (B.S.Ed '12, MPH '15) and north Georgia native passionate about empowering people to make evidence-based choices in all areas of their life. Off campus Deenene enjoys reading (43 books so far this year!), kayaking, exploring museums and bookstores with her husband, JP, and snuggling their cats, Atticus and Topper.



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ASSESSMENT REPORTING

Assessment should be a continuous, reflective process. Use the annual report as an opportunity to compare data to previous years, note any patterns, consider the impact and effectiveness of changes, and forecast how data can be used to inform future changes to instruction/curriculum.

GUIDANCE & RESOURCES



COMING SOON! Assessment Resources on eLC

You'll receive an email invite in the next few weeks to join our new eLC course. This course will house Xitracs tutorials, LOA feedback form, guides for different types of evidence, templates to save you time and work, plus more!



UPDATED for Fall 2023: LOA Feedback Rubric

The Learning Outcomes Assessment Feedback Rubric has been updated to better promote common strengths and common opportunities for growth identified by Assessment staff.



How to A.C.E. your Program Assessment Report

Review the slideshow at the top of this webpage for a refresher on how to prepare for submitting your annual Program Report. Reminder: Program Learning Outcomes Assessment reports should be submitted in Xitracs by October 1, 2023.



XITRACS TRAINING

Need a refresher? Sign up for a session below.

Wednesday, August 23rd

11:00am

[Click here to register.](#)

Thursday, August 24th

11:00am

[Click here to register.](#)

Tuesday, August 29th

2:00pm

[Click here to register.](#)

Wednesday, August 30th

2:00pm

[Click here to register.](#)

Looking for other assessment guidance?

Reminder: Program Learning Outcomes Assessment reports are due in Xitracs on October 1, 2023.



[Click here to schedule a consultation appointment with the Office of Assessment.](#)



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Curriculum Mapping: Supporting SLOs from First Year to Graduation



Curriculum mapping allows your program to strengthen the assessment process by analyzing where program learning outcomes are introduced, reinforced, and mastered across the curriculum and using this analysis to inform appropriate changes. The Office of Assessment will provide resources this fall to promote and support curriculum mapping across all programs. Stay tuned for more details!

NEW TO UGA: INSTITUTIONAL COMPETENCIES

In May, the University Council approved Academic Affairs Policy Statement No. 24: Institutional Competencies to recognize six transdisciplinary skills students gain throughout curricular and co-curricular educational experiences. In the next edition of this newsletter, we will provide more information!



Critical Thinking



Leadership & Collaboration



Analytical Thinking



Social Awareness & Responsibility



Communication



Creativity & Innovation



ASSESSMENT SPOTLIGHT

BACHELOR OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE: SMALL CURRICULAR CHANGES

Faculty in the Landscape Architecture program consider multiple direct indicators (exam items, capstone projects, etc.) and indirect indicators (e.g. job placement data) in evaluating students' skill development. In 2020-21, professors teaching LAND 3330 updated the course's supplemental workbook, and those teaching LAND 2220 strengthened instruction to address computer graphic skills. "The BLA curriculum committee continues to discuss and make changes to the overall curriculum in support of improving the professional quality of capstone projects and in strengthening in the depth of knowledge of landscape engineering," reported Ron Sawhill, Associate Professor & BLA Program Coordinator.



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Want more guidance? [Click here to schedule a consultation appointment with the Office of Assessment.](#)