Core Course Assessment
Purpose & Process

Presented September, 2015
Slightly Revised/Updated Dec. 2015
Goals

Overall: Clarify the purpose & process of core curriculum assessment.

Purpose:

* What is assessment? Why are we doing this?

Process:

* Guidelines & Tips for Data Collection
* Reports/Forms
  1. What are they?
  2. How do I complete them?
  3. Where are they housed?
  4. How do I use them?
  5. When & where do I submit them?
What is assessment?
Why are we doing this?
Assessment is

“… [t]he systematic collection, review, and use of information about educational programs undertaken for the purpose of improving student learning and development.”

Ted Marchese

How do we collect quality data?

What is our process for reviewing & using the data?

In this context, the educational program is the Core Curriculum.

Although we are required to assess for SACS accreditation, that is not the most important reason.
Assessment is . . .

A continuous hunt for improvement

About the journey (not a destination)
Instructional Cycle (Closing the Loop)

1. **Plan**
2. **Collect**
3. **Act**
4. **Record/Reflect**

The cycle begins with Plan, moves to Collect, then Act, and finally Record/Reflect, forming a continuous loop.
Will faculty be penalized if assessment results “fall short”?

No.
Guidelines & Tips for Data Collection
How much data is enough?
University Guidelines  
Developed by Core Curriculum Assessment Committee

* Note revised minimum acceptable sample below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Format</th>
<th>Total Students Enrolled in Course (not section)</th>
<th>Minimum Acceptable Sample</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective Embedded Exam Questions</td>
<td>120 or more</td>
<td>20% of students enrolled</td>
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<tr>
<td>Objective Embedded Exam Questions</td>
<td>119 or fewer</td>
<td>40% of students enrolled</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subjective Writing Intensive Assessment Method, i.e.: Rubric</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>10% of students enrolled but no fewer than 25 students *</td>
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</table>
ParScore can help automate data collection & analysis.
Reports/Forms

What are they?
1. Core Curriculum Assessment Plan
2. Core Curriculum Assessment Results Report
3. Use of Results for Core Improvement Report
Reports/Forms

1. What are they?
2. How do I complete the Assessment Report?

*If the course is new to the Core...*

*Step 1.* Review assessment plan & work with faculty to make any necessary revisions, e.g. SLOs, assessment method, etc.

[https://coreproposal.utsa.edu/](https://coreproposal.utsa.edu/)

Login using abc123
## All Proposals

### My Proposals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revision</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Foundational Component Area</th>
<th>Activity Date</th>
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### Department-Level Proposals

There are no department level proposals currently available for viewing.

Choose a Department to view: [ ]

### College-Level Proposals

There are no college level proposals currently available for viewing.

Choose a College to view: [ ]

### University-Level Archived Proposals

There are no university level proposals currently available for viewing.

[+ New Proposal]
### All Proposals

#### My Proposals

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<tr>
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#### College-Level Proposals

There are no college level proposals currently available for viewing.

#### University-Level Proposals

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Course Information

Type: Existing Course
Course: ANT 1013 Introduction to Anthropology
Credit Hours: 3
Course Offered: Fall ☑ Spring ☑ Summer
TCCN: ANTH 2346
Prerequisites: none
Course Description: The study of human culture, past and present: its origins, development, and contemporary change; and the exploration of human physical and cultural differences using the paradigm of adaptation.

Foundational Component Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Foundational Component Area Intent:

Core Curriculum Objectives

Critical Thinking Skills (required):
This course will promote critical evaluation and inquiry into relationships between biology and culture, including: human evolution, current primate diversity, past human cultures, and current cultural and linguistic similarities and differences across the globe.

Communication Skills (required):
This course will promote interpretation and communication regarding current debates and research in biological anthropology, archaeology, linguistic anthropology, and cultural anthropology.

Empirical and Quantitative Skills (required):
This course will promote manipulation and analysis of numerical or observable facts as they relate to human biological and cultural diversity.

Social Responsibility (required):
This course will promote intercultural competence through critical thinking of cultural difference and similarity, using considerations of anthropological ethics and cultural relativism.

Teamwork (optional):
n/a

Personal Responsibility (optional):
n/a

Proposed Syllabus
Submit Query 1013 Core Curriculum Syllabus 2-27.pdf

Core Course Assessment Plan
Submit Query ANT_1013-Core-Assessment-Form-Soc-Beh-SCI_2-27.pdf

Additional Information
n/a
Process

Reports/Forms

1. What are they?
2. How do I complete the Assessment Report?

*If the course is new to the Core . . .*

**Step 1.** Review assessment plan & work with faculty to make any necessary revisions, e.g. SLOs, assessment method, etc.

https://coreproposal.utsa.edu/

*If the course is NOT new to the Core . . .*

Access & review the most recent Assessment Report posted to TracDat. Work with faculty to make any necessary revisions, e.g. SLOs, assessment method, etc. If you do not have access to TD, request “read” access by emailing your abc123 login to Nancy.Martin@utsa.edu

**Step 2.** Coordinate exam questions &/or rubric criteria across sections.

**Step 3. End of Semester.** Collect results from faculty.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Total 3s &amp; 4s</th>
<th>Student RvwD</th>
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<td>Critical Thinking</td>
<td>Individual Response Paper</td>
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<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>Poster Presentation: Individual</td>
<td>Q3. Delivery (Oral)</td>
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<td>AIS 1203</td>
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<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>Poster Presentation: Group</td>
<td>Q3. Supporting Material (Visual)</td>
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<td>AIS 1203</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>Individual Response Paper</td>
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<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>Individual Response Paper</td>
<td>Q8. Grammar &amp; Punctuation (Written)</td>
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<td>Personal Responsibility</td>
<td>Individual Response Paper</td>
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<td>AIS 1203</td>
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<td>Social Responsibility</td>
<td>Individual Response Paper</td>
<td>Q4. Results, Impact Society</td>
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</table>

Instructions: Tally the number of students who received 3 (strong) and 4 (excellent) for each criterion below and place total amount in appropriate cell. Once completed, please submit to Susan.Colorado@utsa.edu
Reports/Forms

1. What are they?
2. How do I complete the Assessment Report?

If the course is new to the Core . . .

Step 1. Review assessment plan & work with faculty to make any necessary revisions, e.g. SLOs, assessment method, etc.

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Step 2. Coordinate exam questions &/or rubric criteria across sections.

Step 3. End of Semester. Collect results from faculty.

Step 4. Aggregate data across all sections, complete & submit the report.
Reports/Forms

1. What are they?
2. How do I complete the Assessment Report?
3. Where are they housed?

http://Provost.utsa.edu/corecurriculum
UTSA's Core Curriculum

The core curriculum is the set of common courses required of all undergraduates at UTSA. While bachelor's degree-seeking students select a major to develop in-depth expertise in a particular area, the common core represents the broad, foundational knowledge and skills that every UTSA graduate should have.

At UTSA, the Core Curriculum includes coursework in Communication; Mathematics; Life and Physical Sciences; Language, Philosophy and Culture; Creative Arts; American History; Government/Political Science; and Social and Behavioral Sciences. It also includes AIS 1203 Academic Inquiry and Scholarship, which is part of the university's First-Year Experience.

UTSA has been recognized by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni for the strength and breadth of its core curriculum.

This website is intended to provide UTSA faculty with information and resources needed to (1) submit a proposal for a new course to become part of the core curriculum; and (2) to assess appropriately once a course has become a part of the core.

BECOMING PART OF UTSA'S CORE CURRICULUM

Core Curriculum Proposal Portal (Open September 1–October 1)

Proposals for New Core Courses
Timeline & Approval Routing Process
THECB State Requirements for the Core Curriculum: Overview
Guidelines for a Well-Written Proposal
Creating Well-Written Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) (pdf)
Creating A Quality Core Curriculum Assessment Plan: Overview (pptx)
Rubrics used by the Core Curriculum Committee to evaluate proposals are available in PDF on the Resources and Forms page.

AFTER A COURSE IS APPROVED FOR THE CORE CURRICULUM

Core Curriculum Assessment Basics
Core Curriculum Assessment
Steps in Assessment Process
College TracDat Staff
Assessment Calendar
Student Directions for Submitting an Assignment to Blackboard LEARN (pdf)

Article: Jardaleza, S., et al. (2013). The value of community building: One center's story of how the VALUE rubrics provided common ground. Liberal Education (Summer), 52-57.

Rubrics Used by the Core Curriculum Committee to Evaluate Proposals (PDF documents)

1. Communication
2. Mathematics
3. Life & Physical Sciences
4. Language, Philosophy & Culture
5. Creative Arts
6. American History
7. Government-Political Science
8. Social & Behavioral Sciences

LEAP VALUE Rubrics (in Word)

- Civic Engagement
- Critical Thinking
- Ethical Reasoning
- Intercultural Knowledge & Competence
- Oral Communication
- Quantitative Literacy
- Teamwork
- Written Communication

Forms

Assessment Plan Templates
Core Assessment Plan (SAMPLE)

1. Communication
2. Mathematics
3. Life & Physical Sciences
4. Language, Philosophy & Culture
5. Creative Arts
6. American History
7. Government-Political Science
8. Social & Behavioral Sciences

Assessment Report Templates

1. Communication
2. Mathematics
3. Life & Physical Sciences
4. Language, Philosophy & Culture
5. Creative Arts
6. American History
7. Government-Political Science
8. Social & Behavioral Sciences

Use of Results for Improvement Report (in Word)
Reports/Forms

1. What are they?
2. How do I complete the Assessment Report?
3. Where are they & how do I obtain them?
4. How do I use the
   a. Assessment Report?
   b. Use of Results for Core Improvement Report?
Reports/Forms

1. What are they?
2. How do I complete the Assessment Report?
3. Where are they & how do I obtain them?
4. How do I use them?
5. When & where do I submit them?

Due Dates:

Nov 2, 2015: Use of Results
Jan 22, 2016: Fall Results Report
May 27, 2016: Spring Results Report

*Complete calendar is available at
http://provost.utsa.edu/corecurriculum
Submitted to College TracDat Person

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<tr>
<th>College</th>
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<td>CRJ: Cammie Diaz&lt;br&gt; PAD: Jo Reyes</td>
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<td>Timothy (Kai) Kamaka</td>
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<td>Univ College</td>
<td>Kristi Johnson</td>
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Questions throughout the process?

Consult the web site
http://provost.utsa.edu/corecurriculum

Or

Contact Dr. Nancy Martin
Associate Vice Provost-Core Curriculum & QEP
Nancy.Martin@utsa.edu