

Psychology Department Multi-Year Student Learning Assessment Plan

Outcomes	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	Means of Assessment, Benchmark	Who is in charge ?	How the loop will be closed /has been closed?
Knowledge Base <i>Demonstrate the ability to identify, recognize, or otherwise articulate key elements of content (e.g., core concepts, theories, and individuals) within a wide variety of areas in psychology.</i>	X			f	f	f	f	f	Purpose-designed KAPT instrument in 2010-11(see 2010-11 Annual Report); standardized disciplinary test beginning 2013-14.	Smith	In order to be able to compare Westmont students with other institutions and national norms, Psychology requested funding to administer annually a standard disciplinary test to all psych seniors, beginning 2013-14. Discussions in May 2011 and 2012 meetings have led to curricular changes, as reflected in the current report.
Written and Oral Communication <i>Write efficiently, creatively, and competently using APA style in both theoretical/review and research report genres.</i>		X			f				Department faculty review of PSY 111 capstone term paper samples (all abstracts, selected papers)	Fikes	Based on department discussion in May 2012 meetings, implemented changes in writing assignments. PSY 111 writing will be reassessed in 2014-2015.
Values and Character <i>Demonstrate ability to identify important contemporary areas of overlap between psychology and Christian theology and spirituality, and are both affectively positively disposed towards them and inclined towards practicing them.</i>			X						Alumni survey, senior survey (PSY 111, PSY 196)	Fikes, Rogers, and Smith	We anticipate reviewing and revising faith/learning integration practices in department curriculum, soliciting student feedback on the efficacy of department chapels and making changes or recommendations, and pursuing ways of introducing spiritual formation practices and disciplines into our curriculum consistent with the desires and needs of students.

<p>Scientific Thinking, Methods and Skills <i>Use disciplinary and general-purpose databases and search engines effectively and efficiently to refine research questions in psychology and identify extant answers within the literature; and they recognize and apply appropriate disciplinary methods to further address these questions.</i></p>				X					<p>Purpose –designed PsycINFO search assignment in PSY 111 and departmental review of research design in PSY 197/8 projects.</p>	Saad	<p>We anticipate reviewing and revising teaching methods and requesting revision to Library resources and practices based on findings; and refining PSY 013 and 013L curriculum to address shortcomings in the application of disciplinary methods.</p>
<p>Scientific Thinking, Methods and Skills <i>Demonstrate ability to recognize good vs. bad experimental designs, theories, and arguments in psychology, and also reasoning linking psychology to other disciplines.</i></p>				X					<p>Department review of literature review in PSY 197/8 projects.</p>	Smith	<p>We anticipate refining PSY 013 and 013L and laboratory course curriculum to address shortcomings in critical disciplinary thinking exposed by review of the capstone research projects.</p>
<p>Values and Character <i>Engage as active global citizens with an awareness of cultural diversity, one’s own culture/s, and the responsibility of self towards others.</i></p>					X				<p>Student survey and site supervisor questionnaire/interview in PSY 196 capstone</p>	Gurney	TBD

Applications <i>Engage as active agents in their local communities, bringing their intellectual and academic abilities and interests to bear on improving the lives of those around them.</i>						X		TBD, will be assessed in PSY 196 capstone	Rogers	TBD
Scientific Thinking, Methods and Skills <i>Recognize the creative aspects of theory construction, experimental design, application and collaborative work in psychology, and demonstrate such creativity in their own disciplinary work.</i>							X	TBD, will be assessed in PSY 111, PSY 197/8 capstones	Smith	TBD
TBD							X	TBD	TBD	TBD

Comments/Reflections:

The Outcomes column contains the department's most current Student Learning Outcomes, as well as the name of the departmental Program Learning Goal with which the outcome is associated. Alignment with college Institutional Learning Outcomes can be found in the 2011-2012 Curriculum Map (on our department Program Review archive), and alignment with the college Institutional Learning Goals can be found in the Department Goals Alignment matrix (Chart 4 in the 2006-2012 self assessment report). Prior two years (2010-2011 and 2011-2012) were included to reflect follow-up assessment activities (indicated by f in academic year columns) and "closing the loop."