



General Education Forum Survey Results

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University Assessment Committee**

General Education Students Learning Outcomes

**Acquire and
Evaluate Information**

**Analyze and
Integrate Knowledge**

**Develop Perspective and An
Understanding Of Human
Experience**

**Communicate
Effectively**

Composition I

Humanities I

General Biology

College Algebra

Earth Science

Spanish I

Speech

General Biology

Earth Science

Composition II

Humanities I

Earth Science

Spanish I

Introductory Psychology

Composition I

Earth Science

Speech

Composition II

Should we provide students the opportunity to learn the 4 Learning outcomes in each general education course?

How many outcomes should we assess?

How Are General Education Courses Related To Each Other?

Faculty Results: General Education Course Objectives

Human Experience

Knowledge

Basic Skills

Foundational

Application

General

Understanding

Reasoning

Abilities

Meaningful Learning

Essential

Critical Information



Faculty Results Reveal Two Major Issues

Problem One: Students lack oral and written communication skills.

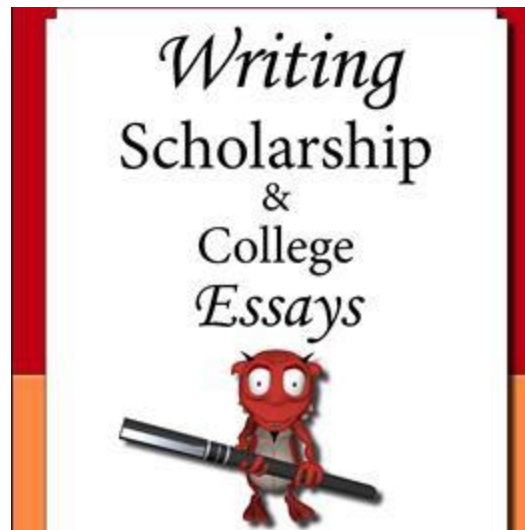
Problem Two: There is a lack of General Education interdepartmental communication.





Problem Identification

- Students Lack Oral & Written Communication Skills



73% Of The General Education Courses Being Reviewed
Use Objective Exams To Assess Outcomes 1, 2, & 3.

Faculty Explanation Of Why:

- Ease of evaluation.
- Exams are not biased.
- Necessary for large classes.
- Easy to tie to objectives.



18% Of Courses Include Oral Communication Activities & 54% Of Courses Include Written Communication Activities

Faculty Explanation Of Why:

- Only or discipline specific skills.
- Hard to assess.
- Large classes prohibit.
- Lack of ability to assess oral skills.
- Gen Ed students are not assessed at this level.
- Oral communication is not a priority.



36% Of Courses Being Reviewed Assess Outcome 4 Communicate Effectively

Faculty Explanation Of Why:

- **It is a necessary skill for the course or discipline that teaches communication.**
- **Too hard to incorporate into class time and evaluation.**



Student Learning

- ✓ **73% of the general education courses being reviewed use objective exams.**
- ✓ **18% of courses being reviewed include oral communication Activities.**
- ✓ **54% of courses being reviewed include written communication activities.**
- ✓ **36% of courses being reviewed assess outcome 4 communicate effectively.**

Based on the results, what changes would you recommend?

100% Of Departments Report They Include
Some Oral & Written Communication Activities In Their General
Education Courses, But They Are Not Being Assessed.

Assignments:

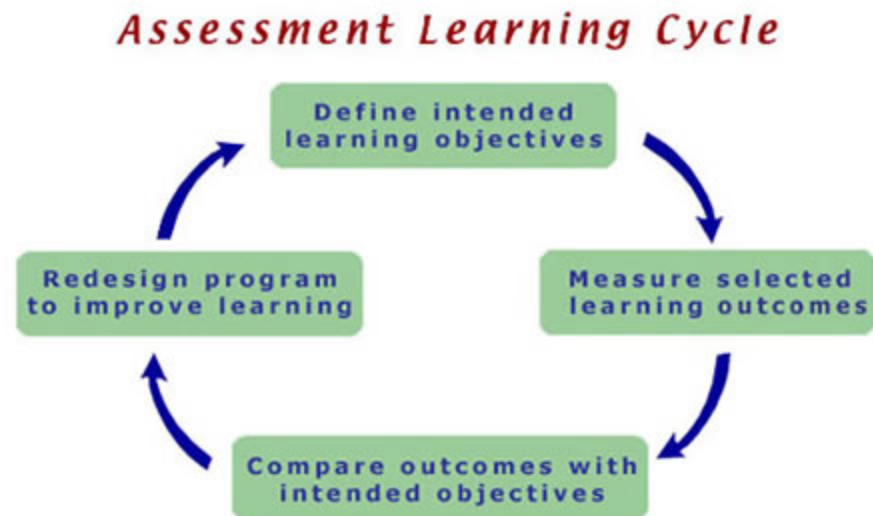
- Writing Assignments
- Research Papers
- Essays
- Short Answers
- Word Problems
- Case Studies
- Article Evaluation
- Class Discussions
- Oral Presentations



If these activities were emphasized more often, how would this improve student learning?

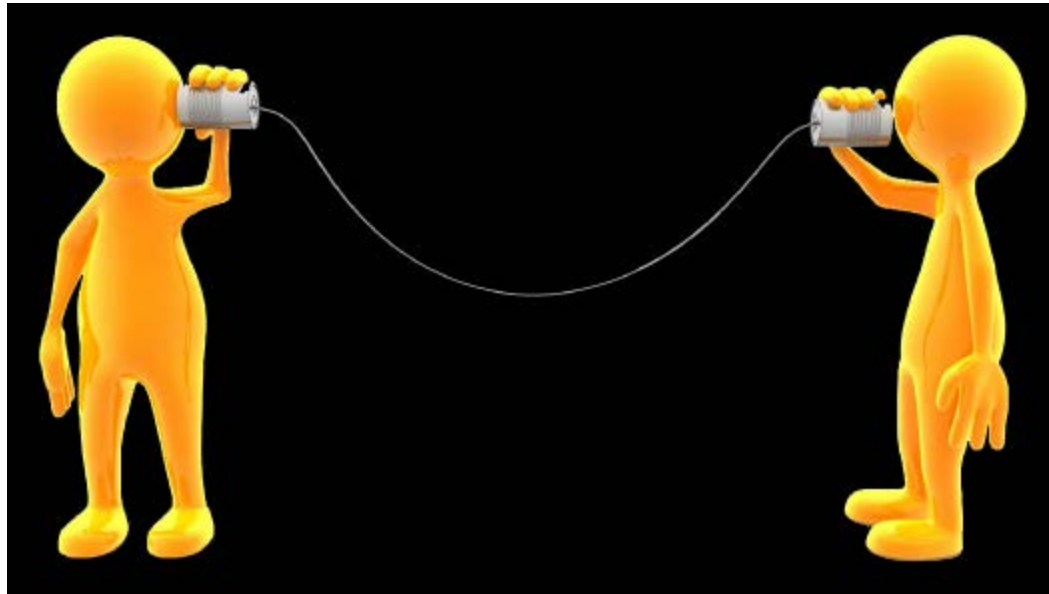
Problem: Students Lack Oral and Written Communication Skills

- ❖ **Should we increase oral and written communication assignments in our general education program?**
- ❖ **Should we increase the formal assessment of these assignments?**



Problem Identification

- Problem: Lack Of Interdepartmental Communication





How Are Gen Ed Courses Related To Each Other?



Faculty Results:

Disconnected Discipline Specific Culture

- Simply parallel.
- Almost no connection.
- Not directly related.
- Not familiar with courses outside my department.
- Courses are related to our discipline.
- Courses teach core concepts from each discipline.
- No Formal Process by which departments are responsible for teaching courses or collaborate with each other.

How Has the Assessment Process Led To Improvements in Student Learning?

Faculty Results: Department Collective Culture

- ✓ *We discuss all points of assessment.*
- ✓ *We take stock of our progress.*
- ✓ *We discuss how to get adjunct faculty more involved.*
- ✓ *We have made significant improvements with online learning, text book changes, and course work.*
- ✓ *We have made changes to enrich and improve student hands-on learning.*

Only 36% of departments report they have made curricular improvements based on assessment results.

What should we do to achieve more significant curricular improvements in the general education program?



Should We Create A Student Learning Culture?

- If so, how would we create this culture?
- How can we improve collaboration between departments and campus general education culture?

[Home > 21st Century Collaborative Learning Culture](#)



How Could We Improve Our General Education Community?

Faculty Results: Solutions

- Increase Communication and Interaction
- Increase Understanding
- Increase Leadership



Solution One

- Increase Communication and Interaction
 - Workshops
 - Forums
 - Casual Conversational Assessment Process



Solution Two

- **Increase Understanding**
 - **Learn About Other Departments.**
 - **Define Student Learning Outcomes.**
 - **Learn From Other Universities.**
 - **Improve Student Learning Reports.**



Solution Three

- **Increase Leadership**

- **Establish General Education Committee**
- **Increase Direction
From The Administration**

How should we
improve leadership?



Where Do We Go From Here?

- ❖ **Promote & Enhance All Student Learning**
- ❖ **Promote Campus Communication**
- ❖ **Improve The Assessment Process**
- ❖ **Establish A Cohesive General Education Program**





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