

Institutional Outcomes Assessment Description

East Carolina University (ECU) is committed to documenting the quality and effectiveness of all its programs and services. As such, faculty in each educational program identify expected student learning outcomes, assess the extent to which each program achieves these outcomes, and provide evidence of seeking improvement based on analysis of results. All undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs at ECU conduct systematic, ongoing assessment of student learning outcomes. Program level assessment plans consist of student learning outcomes, data collection methods or means of assessment, and criteria for success. Undergraduate and graduate degree programs typically have six to eight student learning outcomes in their assessment plan, while certificates have two to four student learning outcomes. When developing the assessment plans, faculty in degree programs identify a five-year cycle of assessment where at least three outcomes will be formally assessed each year, and all are assessed at least once in the five-year cycle.

Annual assessment reports for educational programs are due in Nuventive, the university's assessment tracking system, by May 15 (for 9-month faculty) or June 15 (for 12-month faculty). Undergraduate and graduate degree programs report on at least three student learning outcomes and certificate programs report on at least two outcomes. Faculty are expected to report on all outcomes over the course of a five-year timeframe. A complete assessment report includes:

- Actions Taken in the Reporting Year: a summary of the curricular and/or pedagogical actions faculty took to improve student learning that are related to the outcome;
- Results: a summary of the data collected from the Means of Assessment which should be stated in terms of the Criterion for Success;
- Analysis of Results: a summary of the relationship between Actions Taken by faculty to improve student learning and Results. This includes faculty's interpretation of the Results and the identification of an area for improvement or reinforcement; and
- Actions Planned for Next Reporting Year: curricular and/or pedagogical steps faculty will take to improve or reinforce student learning for the area identified in the Analysis of Results.