

Associate of Science

Academic Assessment Plan

Reviewed by college committee: 11/15/23

Reviewed by dean: 11/15/23

Reviewed with curriculum by the Academic Assessment Committee: 12/1/23

Reviewed by the Faculty Senate as an information item: 2/2/24

# Background

Assessment for the Associate of Science General Science program is connected to the assessment of the general education program because the general science requirements are to complete the same requirements except for the general education capstone.

Note the program student learning outcomes for the Associate of Science are built from the core competencies each of which encompasses one or more general education outcomes. A mapping from the Associate of Science program student learning outcomes to the general education student learning outcomes is provided below.

# Program Student Learning Outcomes

The current program student learning outcomes for the Associate of Science are the following.

* Communicate effectively.
* Think creatively and critically.
* Reason scientifically.

This table indicates which general education PSLOs can be used to demonstrate the General Sciences PSLOs.

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| **AS General Science** | **General Education** |
| Communicate effectively | Communicate effectively in a variety of contexts and formats |
|  | Interpret different systems of aesthetic representation and understand their historical and cultural contexts |
|  | Note also multiple other general education outcomes include a communication construct in their rubrics which are measured during their assessment. |
| Think creatively and critically  | Locate and use relevant information to make appropriate personal and professional decisions |
| Reason mathematically and analyze quantitative & qualitative data competently to reach sound conclusions |
| Adopt critical perspectives for understanding the forces of globalization and diversity. |
| Interpret different systems of aesthetic representation and understand their historical and cultural contexts |
| Reason scientifically | Identify ways in which science has advanced the understanding of important natural processes |
| Investigate complexity of human institutions/individual behavior to understand interpersonal, group, & cultural dynamics |

# Measures

Because the General Sciences major is based on the baccalaureate general education requirements with an emphasis on the natural or social sciences, assessing the effectiveness of the General Sciences major is largely equivalent to measuring the effectiveness of the general education requirements. As a result, the assessment is based on the same process.

In brief, the general education assessment process reviews two or three program student learning outcomes each year. This is achieved by collecting artifacts from courses with course student learning outcomes that apply to a general education program student learning outcome. A group of faculty, after preparation, review the submitted artifacts and score them against a rubric. The results of the scoring are compared against expectations for that course level to see if students on average are achieving course and program outcomes. Progress over time is also tracked. For greater detail, see the general education assessment description.

The report for the Associate of Sciences General Sciences will be completed through participation in the general education assessment process.