Introduction

Outcomes assessment is an important process of establishing student learning outcomes, implementing the instructional program, assessing the outcomes, and using the information to inform and guide program and curriculum improvement. The documentation and implementation of this process at the program-level is crucial to the University’s continued accreditation.

The University’s “Policy and Procedures for Outcomes Assessment” (attached to this policy) describes and documents the UC Denver’s procedure for the design and implementation of a coherent and comprehensive program for annual assessment of student learning in all programs. It also defines the required annual program-level report schedule which allows for a full cycle of assessment activities during each academic year.

This policy states: All academic programs will conduct student learning assessment in order to continually inform academic programs and improve student learning. “Program” is defined as (1) a course of study that leads to a degree, certificate, or license; (2) the academic programs offered by Library faculty; and (3) the Core Curriculum. The development and implementation of outcomes assessment plans are the responsibility of the faculty members in each academic unit, including the Library.

Policy Statement

1. All departments and programs must establish program goals and student learning outcomes.
2. All departments and programs must assess student learning and performance using a variety of indirect and direct measurements.
3. All departments and programs must inform the faculty teaching core courses of the student learning outcomes required for that course.
4. All faculty members must include the program’s required student learning outcomes for that course in the syllabus, develop methods of assessment such as rubrics and exams, and submit a report that provides the necessary data for the departmental annual results report.
5. All departments and programs must evaluate the information and use it in a feedback loop that uses the assessment data and other information to inform program improvement to progress student learning.
6. All departments and programs must conform to the University schedule’s of reports as documented in the University’s “Policy and Procedures for Outcomes Assessment”.