



# Framingham

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## State University



## **University-wide Assessment Plan**

Office of Institutional Effectiveness

AY 2012- 2017

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## Introduction

The charge for campus-wide assessment is derived from the Strategic Plan 2012-17 - “FSU will instill a culture of assessment that enables continuous improvement.” (Strategic Plan 2012-17, p.4). In response, we developed a University-wide Assessment Plan (2012-17) detailing comparable assessment activities for all students at the campus and program levels.

This University-wide Assessment Plan provides a broad framework for assessing student learning. It outlines systematic, ongoing and iterative processes, conducted by multiple units to facilitate campus-wide, data-driven conversations about student learning. The plan intentionally scaffolds institution and program objectives which when combined give a picture of campus-wide assessment of student learning.

As a campus, Framingham State University (FSU) values faculty autonomy and independence in the classroom. To that end, we have built a campus-wide culture of assessment that is faculty-led and focused on student learning and success. Our model for assessing student learning primarily uses non-standardized methods drawn from classroom activities and is based on the LEAP and VALUE frameworks.



The formal structure for assessment is housed in the Office of the Provost, which has oversight of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE). OIE was established through a grant from the Davis Educational Foundation in 2010. OIE consists of three units Office of Institutional Assessment (OIA), the Office of Institutional Research (OIR) and the Office of Institutional Process and Efficiencies (OIPE).

## Institutional Assessment

The focus of institutional assessment is on student success and student experience at FSU. To that end the Office of Institutional Effectiveness will administer the following institution-wide surveys. Some surveys are locally developed and others are benchmarked national surveys that provide information on the overall academic and co- curricular program. Below is the schedule with which surveys will be administered. An X in a cell below indicates that the survey will be administered during that academic year.

Survey Name	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	Focus
Academic Advising Survey	X	X	X	X	X	All undergraduate students
Undergraduate Exit Survey	X	X	X	X	X	Undergraduate students participating in the spring commencement ceremony
Graduate Exit Survey			X	X	X	Graduate students graduating in the academic year.



Survey Name	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	Focus
Post-Graduation Placement Survey	X	X	X	X	X	Undergraduate alumni 6 months after graduation
Undergraduate Alumni Survey	X	X	X	X	X	Undergraduate alumni 3 years after graduating
National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)		X			X	Undergraduate first-year and senior students.
Graduate Alumni Survey					Under Development	Graduate Alumni (length of time after graduating still being determined)

## General Education Assessment

Framingham State University's Assessment Advisory Group (AAG) developed a comprehensive five-year assessment plan for the General Education curriculum. Two or three student learning objectives are formally assessed each academic year. Summers will be heavily utilized for the development and finalization of assessment tools (i.e., rubrics), rating of student artifacts and for the analysis of data. Results will be reported to faculty members in campus-wide meetings, during the annual assessment workshops, and posted on the Office of Institutional Assessment website.



The Assessment Plan for General Education can be accessed using the following link: <https://www.framingham.edu/Assets/uploads/about-fsu/office-of-assessment/documents/gen-ed-assessment-plan.pdf>

The rubrics that have been/will be developed to assess learning outcomes can be accessed using the following link: <https://www.framingham.edu/about-fsu/office-of-assessment/general-education-assessment/index>

## Undergraduate Program Assessment

Each undergraduate program at FSU has, or is currently developing, an assessment plan that projects assessment activities over the course of a five year cycle. Within each cycle, all learning objectives identified for the program are assessed at least once. Programs that have developed assessment plans will start to submit assessment reports in annual cycles. Annual assessment reports will be submitted to the Office of Institutional Assessment by November 15, each year. Programs with



specialized accreditation are encouraged to post their plans and reports on their department or program website.



The Office of Institutional Assessment, in collaboration with CELTSS, will offer a certificate in Program Assessment to faculty each year. These workshops will cover, crafting measureable learning objectives, curriculum mapping, identifying assessment means and methods and developing assessment plans, as well as offered guidance from previous workshop attendees. The goal is that all graduate and undergraduate programs will have developed assessment plans by the end of AY2017.

## Graduate Program Assessment

The Office of Graduate Studies was established recently, in January 2013. As a result, we are currently building an assessment model from the ground up to enable graduate programs to develop an infrastructure for assessment. The goal is to set up a data driven model with clear objectives and processes that will yield meaningful information on the strengths, weaknesses, and progress in achieving stated program goals.

The Offices of Graduate Studies, Institutional Assessment and Institutional Research will work together to establish the following assessment structures:

1. Academic Program Assessment
  - a. Phase 1: Developing program assessment plans
  - b. Phase 2: Implementing the assessment plans
  - c. Phase 3: Writing assessment reports
2. Development and Implementation of Graduate Student Exit Survey (Target Implementation - Spring 2014)
3. Development of Graduate Alumni Survey – Spring 2017

### Academic Program Assessment

#### Phase 1: Developing Program Assessment Plans

The development of program assessment plans for Graduate Studies will be rolled out in stages with clear deliverables and timeframes. The Graduate Studies program recognizes the important role that faculty play in establishing and sustaining assessment practices. To that end, the development of assessment plans will be led by Graduate Program Coordinators and closely supplemented with workshops related to each stage in the assessment process facilitated by the Office of Institutional Assessment.



<b>Assessment Activity</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Each program will identify and develop program learning goals and outcomes	November 15, 2013
Graduate Program Coordinator Workshop 1: Developing Assessable Program Learning Goals and Outcomes	November 25, 2013
Dean of Graduate Studies will email program coordinators to finalize Program Learning Objectives and have them reviewed by the Office of Institutional Assessment	January 20, 2014
Graduate Program Coordinator Workshop 2: How to develop curriculum maps	February 10, 2014
Each program will develop program curriculum maps to link specific outcomes with courses	February, 2014
Graduate Program Coordinator Workshop 3: Linking assessment with program learning objectives	February, 2014
Graduate Program Coordinator Workshop 4: Developing a program assessment plan	April 2014
Each program will complete writing a program assessment plan and submit to the Dean of Graduate Studies and Executive Director of Institutional Assessment	End of Summer 2014
Identifying resources for program assessment	Summer 2014
Pilot data collection based on program assessment plan	Fall 2015

After all graduate programs have developed program assessment plans, the Dean of Graduate Studies, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dean of Continuing Education and Executive Director of Institutional Assessment will work with Graduate Program Coordinators to establish processes, resources and responsibilities for the following stages in the program assessment process:

**Phase 2: Implementing the Assessment Plan (2015-16)**

**Phase 3: Developing Annual Assessment Reports (2016-17) Due date November 15 of each year**

## Academic Program Review

All undergraduate and graduate academic programs at Framingham State University will participate in a staggered five-year cycle of external program reviews. This review process involves an extensive departmental self-study followed by an evaluation by an outside evaluator. In addition, each academic department has identified learning outcomes that it expects its students to achieve and regularly collects data to evaluate the effectiveness of its program in helping students to meet these outcomes. Departments use these assessment data and reports of the program review as the basis for making changes to the academic program.





## Undergraduate Program Review

<u>Department</u>	<u>Self-Study</u>	<u>External Review</u>	<u>Next Self-Study</u>
Art and Music	2011-2012	Fall 2013	2018-2019
ASL/English Interpreting	new program	new program	2019-2020
Biology	2012-2013	Fall 2013	2018-2019
Business	2014-2015	Fall 2015	2017-2018
Chemistry and Food Science	2009-2010	Spring 2010	2016-2017
Communication Arts	2012-2013	Spring 2013	2018-2019
Computer Science	2011-2012	Spring 2012	2017-2018
Criminology	new program	new program	2016-2017
Dietetics Programs	2014-2015	Spring 2015	2019-2020
Economics	new program	new program	2019-2020
Education	2013-2014	Spring 2014	2018-2019
English	2011-2012	Spring 2012	2017-2018
Environmental Science	new program	Spring 2016	2015-2016
Fashion Design & Retailing	2010-2011	Spring 2011	2016-2017
Geography	2014-2015	Spring 2015	2019-2020
Global Studies	new program	new program	2019-2020
History	2012-2013	Spring 2013	2018-2019
Info Tech/Business	2013-2014	Fall 2014	2019-2020
Liberal Studies	new program	new program	2017-2018
Mathematics	2009-2010	Spring 2010	2015-2016
Nursing	2013-2014	Fall 2014	2019-2020
Nutrition & Wellness	2010-2011	Fall 2014	2019-2020?
Political Science	2014-2015	Spring 2015	2019-2020
Psychology and Philosophy	2011-2012	Fall 2012	2017-2018
Sociology	2012-2013	Spring 2013	2018-2019
World Languages	2013-2014	Spring 2014	2019-2020

## Graduate Program Review

The Office of Graduate Studies will develop processes for the implementation of a comprehensive program review of graduate programs. The Dean of Graduate studies will put in place a policy relating to how program review will be conducted and disseminate that process with Program Coordinators and faculty.

During the spring 2016 semester, the Office of Graduate Studies will work to develop a program review instrument. The instrument will consist of quality indicators that will include data prompts and existing data from Institutional Research. The instrument will be developed and approved by the end of Spring 2016. During summer of 2017, the Dean of Graduate Studies will establish a plan to make program review operational. This will aid efficiency in data collection and analysis.



## Timeline

Activity	Due Date
Establish a process for program review in writing	Spring 2014
Develop a schedule for program review	Completed (see Appendix A)
Develop program review template for Graduate Studies	Spring 2014
Develop Online system for program review data collection	Summer 2014

The processes and template for program review will be developed and approved by summer 2014 to facilitate the self-study and review of the first set of graduate programs starting Fall 2015.

## Schedule

The review of graduate programs will follow the following schedule:

Graduate Degree Program	Graduate Review Year
Master of Arts	
Counseling Psychology (Licensure track)	2017- 2018
Counseling Psychology (Non-Licensure track)	2017- 2018
Health Care Administration	2017- 2018
Human Resource Management	2017- 2018
Public Administration	2017- 2018
Master of Business Administration	
Management	2018- 2019
Executive Health Care Management	
Master of Education	
Art	2018-19
Curriculum and Instructional Technology (online)	2018-19
Early Childhood Education	2018-19
Educational Technology (online)	2018-19
Elementary Education	2018-19
Literacy and Language	2018-19
Mathematics	2015-16
Nutrition Education (online)	2015-16
Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM)	2015-16
Spanish	2015-16
Special Education	2015-16
The Teaching of English as a Second Language	2015-16
Master of Science in Food and Nutrition	
Coordinated Program in Dietetics	2014-15





Food Science and Nutrition Science	2016-17
Nutrition Science and Informatics	2016-17
Master of Science in Nursing	
Education	2018-19
Leadership	2018-19

## Co-curricular Assessment

FSU offers a rich set of co-curricular experiences which is an important part of the FSU experience. Each co-curricular unit establishes its own learning and operational goals. Currently, we rely heavily on surveys to assess the co-curricular experience. The following surveys will be administered:

Office	Assessment Effort	Target Population	Month/Year
Dean of Students	Sexual Assault Climate Survey	All Students	December and May
First Year Programs	Orientation Benchmarking	FY and T Students	Nov-16
First Year Programs	BCSSE	First Year Students	June and August
Residence Life	Skyfactor Resident Study	Resident Students	Mar-17
Assistant Dean for Campus Engagement	Campus Engagement Survey	All Students	Mar-17
Health Services	ACHA-NCHA	All Students	Mar-20
Health Services	CORE Survey	All Students	Spring 2017
Counselling Center	Annual Satisfaction Survey	Students using the Center	Annually
First Year Foundations	Foundations survey	First Year Students	Annually
Advising Center	PLUS Survey	Students who participated in the PLUS program	May 2017
Center for Academic Success and Achievement (CASA)	Disability Services/ Accessibility Survey	Students who used disability/accessibility services	Annually
Advising Center	College Tomorrow Survey	Students who participated in the College Tomorrow program	August 2017



## Resources for Assessment

In order to view, examine or analyze the results from the assessment activities outlined above, please use the following selected list of resources:

1. **Undergraduate Program Assessment Plans and Reports** - <https://www.framingham.edu/about-fsu/office-of-assessment/undergraduate-program-assessment/index>
2. **Graduate Assessment Plans and Reports** - <https://www.framingham.edu/about-fsu/office-of-assessment/graduate-assessment/index>
3. **General Education Rubrics and Reports** - <https://www.framingham.edu/about-fsu/office-of-assessment/general-education-assessment/index>
4. **Results from Institutional Surveys** - <https://www.framingham.edu/about-fsu/institutional-effectiveness/institution-wide-surveys/index>
5. **General Assessment Resources** - <https://www.framingham.edu/about-fsu/office-of-assessment/resources/index>

