

Western Nevada College
2021-22 Professional and Applied Technology and Liberal Arts
Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Report Summary
Aug. 1, 2022

This report summarizes Professional and Applied Technology (PAT) and Liberal Arts (LA) Course-Level Student Learning Outcome (SLO) Assessment Reports submitted for the 2021-22 academic year. It is divided into the following sections:

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Introduction: Student Learning Outcomes and Reporting Process Overview

The following WNC institutional SLOs guide all courses, programs, and degrees offered by WNC. SLOs 1-6 provide the structure for general education and alignment for academic program outcomes, while SLO 7 provides a connection for career preparation emphases.

Table 1	
WNC Institutional Student Learning Outcomes	
Student Learning Outcome	Short Title
1. Identify, describe, and apply information, theories, methodologies and approaches from the sciences, social sciences, and humanities/arts.	Working Knowledge
2. Write effective projects, papers, and reports.	Written Communication
3. Present accurate calculations and symbolic operations, and explain how such calculations and operations are used in either the specific field of study or in interpreting information in other fields.	Quantitative Literacy
4. Locate, evaluate, and appropriately use information from multiple resources to complete projects, activities, and papers.	Information Literacy
5. Describe diverse historical and/or contemporary positions on selected democratic values or practices.	Diversity & Society
6. Integrate knowledge and skills from the study of sciences, mathematics, social sciences, and the humanities/arts to think critically about and develop solutions to contemporary and/or enduring problems.	Critical thinking
7. Identify, describe, and apply information in the discipline or career area of their choice sufficient for further study and/ or demonstrate competencies required to succeed in the workplace.	Career Preparation

For the 2021-22 academic year, the JotForm platform was again used for creating and submitting course-level SLO reports. In these reports, academic faculty identify key assignments, projects, or tasks that serve as indicators to assess a course-level SLO, which is mapped to an institutional SLO identified in

the report. Student performance on indicators was measured by evaluating whether students achieved the **Threshold** or **Target** for a given indicator:

- **Threshold:** At least 50% of students achieve 70% on assessment
- **Target:** At least 70% of students achieve 70% on assessment

In addition, academic faculty are asked to identify how they will use these assessment results moving forward, and are asked to provide updates on past assessment project result implementation.

Each year, LA and PAT faculty are asked to include SLO assessment projects as part of their annual plans. These annual plans are submitted to academic directors at the start of the academic year, and always require the inclusion of an assessment project. Typically, faculty conduct assessment during the fall semester and report on results in the following spring. Some faculty conduct multiple assessment projects across multiple semesters as well, and some faculty choose to additionally conduct non-SLO assessment projects. This report summarizes the SLO assessments that were completed and reported to the IRE office by August 2022.

Section 1: Summary of SLO Course Assessments for 2021-22

The following tables summarize course-level SLO assessment results from LA and PAT for the 2021-22 academic year. Twenty-two courses completed a total of 37 assessment reports in LA, and 3 courses completed a total of 3 assessment reports in PAT.

Table 2
Summary of LA SLO Course Assessment for 2021-22

<i>SLO Assessed</i>	<i>Reported SLO Achievement Level</i>						Total LA Courses Assessing SLO	
	Threshold		Target		Neither		# Reports	% Reports
	# Reports	% Reports	# Reports	% Reports	# Reports	% Reports		
SLO 1: Working Knowledge	1	3%	9	24%	1	3%	11	30%
SLO 2: Written Communication	1	3%	1	3%	1	3%	3	8%
SLO 3: Quantitative Literacy	3	8%	3	8%	1	3%	7	19%
SLO 4: Information Literacy	1	3%	2	5%	0	0%	3	8%
SLO 5: Diversity and Society	1	3%	1	3%	0	0%	2	5%
SLO 6: Critical Thinking	2	5%	8	22%	1	3%	11	30%
Total LA Reports Assessing at Each Achievement Level	9	24%	24	65%	4	11%	37	100%

NOTE: Liberal Arts does not typically assess Institutional SLO 7: Career Preparation, so it has been omitted from this table.

Table 3
Summary of PAT SLO Course Assessment for 2021-22

SLO Assessed	Reported SLO Achievement Level						Total PAT Courses Assessing SLO	
	Threshold		Target		Neither		# Reports	% Reports
	# Reports	% Reports	# Reports	% Reports	# Reports	% Reports		
SLO 1: Working Knowledge	1	33%	0	0%	0	0%	1	33%
SLO 2: Written Communication	0	0%	1	33%	0	0%	1	33%
SLO 3: Quantitative Literacy	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
SLO 4: Information Literacy	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
SLO 5: Diversity and Society	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
SLO 6: Critical Thinking	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
SLO 7: Career Preparation	0	0%	1	33%	0	0%	1	33%
Total PAT Reports Assessing at Each Achievement Level	1	33%	2	67%	0	0%	3	100%

Notes on Sec. 1: Summary of SLO Course Assessments for 2021-22

While the previous two academic years had significant pandemic-related disruptions that impacted assessment reporting, the 2021-22 year saw fewer disruptions. In LA, the number of assessment reports received increased from 9 courses completing 16 reports in 2020-21 to 22 courses completing 37 reports in 2021-22. In PAT, the number of SLO assessment reports declined from 11 courses completing 11 assessment reports in 2020-21 to 3 courses completing 3 assessment reports in 2021-22.

Section 2: Recommendations for Future Course Assessment Reports

Updates on Previous Recommendations from 2020-21 Report

- **Increase participation in assessment reporting.** Participation in SLO assessment reporting rose in LA and fell in PAT. It could be useful for Academic Directors and faculty to discuss what went well and what additional support may be needed when it comes to increasing participation in SLO assessment.
- **Continue progress toward curriculum mapping that aligns course-level SLOs with program-level SLOs.** Several curriculum mapping trainings and professional development sessions were held during the 2021-22 year, and faculty engagement with curriculum mapping (such as meeting within and across disciplines to discuss curriculum mapping) also increased over the past year. Additional training and support will be important to continue advancing curriculum mapping in order to better assess SLOs at the program level.
- **Review application of assessment findings and plans moving forward from assessment projects.** A review of assessment findings and application of assessment results factored into several program reviews completed during the 2021-22 year. As a recommendation for the upcoming academic year, it will be important for those programs that did review recent assessment results to follow through on the program-specific recommendations they made.

Recommendations for the upcoming 2022-23 year

- **Increase participation in assessment reporting, curriculum mapping, and the review of assessment results at the program level.** Faculty and Academic Directors should consider what strategies, support, and expectations would be useful for advancing SLO assessment at the course, program, and institutional levels. Different programs may succeed with different levels of support or different approaches to completing assessment projects and reporting. For programs successfully completing assessment reports, consideration should be given for how assessment report findings are applied and whether there is a plan to comprehensively assess SLOs across the course, program, and institutional levels.
- **Continue progress on program review recommendations related to assessment.** Most of the 2021 program reviews completed during the last academic year concluded with one or more recommendations focused on assessment. It will be important for those programs to continue progress toward those goals across the next five-year program review period.

Appendix A: Listing of Reports Received by Course and Semester for 2021-22

LA Completed Course-Level SLO Assessment Reports Received: 2021-22				
Course Assessed	Institutional SLO Assessed	Semester Assessed	Achievement Level	Plan for Result Application
ART 101	ISLO 1: Working Knowledge	Fall	Target	Yes
ART 101	ISLO 4: Information Literacy	Fall	Target	Yes
ART 101	ISLO 6: Critical Thinking	Fall	Target	Yes
ART 231	ISLO 1: Working Knowledge	Fall	Target	Yes
ART 260	ISLO 1: Working Knowledge	Fall	Target	Yes
ART 260	ISLO 2: Written Communication	Fall	Target	Yes
BIOL 190	ISLO 1: Working Knowledge	Fall & Spring	Threshold	Yes
ENG 101	ISLO 4: Information Literacy	Fall	Threshold	Yes
ENG 102	ISLO 6: Critical Thinking	Fall	Threshold	Yes
ENV 101	ISLO 1: Working Knowledge	Fall	Neither	Yes
EPY 150	ISLO 1: Working Knowledge	Fall	Target	Yes
GEOG 103	ISLO 6: Critical Thinking	Fall	Target	No
GEOG 104	ISLO 1: Working Knowledge	Fall	Target	No
GEOL 100	ISLO 6: Critical Thinking	Fall	Target	No
HIST 111	ISLO 4: Information Literacy	Fall	Target	Yes
HIST 285	ISLO 6: Critical Thinking	Spring	Neither	Yes
MATH 120	ISLO 3: Quantitative Literacy	Fall	Neither	Yes
MATH 120	ISLO 3: Quantitative Literacy	Fall	Threshold	Yes
MATH 126	ISLO 1: Working Knowledge	Fall	Target	No

Course Assessed	Institutional SLO Assessed	Semester Assessed	Achievement Level	Plan for Result Application
MATH 126	ISLO 3: Quantitative Literacy	Fall	Threshold	Yes
MATH 126	ISLO 3: Quantitative Literacy	Fall	Threshold	Yes
MATH 126	ISLO 6: Critical Thinking	Fall	Target	Yes
MATH 127	ISLO 3: Quantitative Literacy	Spring	Target	Yes
MATH 127	ISLO 6: Critical Thinking	Spring	Target	Yes
MATH 181	ISLO 3: Quantitative Literacy	Fall	Target	Yes
MATH 181	ISLO 3: Quantitative Literacy	Fall	Target	Yes
MATH 181	ISLO 6: Critical Thinking	Fall	Target	Yes
MUS 121	ISLO 6: Critical Thinking	Fall	Target	Yes
PHIL 210	ISLO 1: Working Knowledge	Fall	Target	Yes
PHIL 210	ISLO 2: Written Communication	Fall	Neither	Yes
PHIL 210	ISLO 5: Diversity and Society	Fall	Target	Yes
PHIL 245	ISLO 1: Working Knowledge	Fall	Target	Yes
PHIL 245	ISLO 2: Written Communication	Fall	Threshold	Yes
PHIL 245	ISLO 5: Diversity and Society	Fall	Threshold	Yes
PHIL 245	ISLO 6: Critical Thinking	Fall	Target	Yes
PSY 101	ISLO 1: Working Knowledge	Fall	Target	Yes
STAT 152	ISLO 6: Critical Thinking	Fall	Threshold	Yes

PAT Completed Course-Level SLO Assessment Reports Received: 2021-22

Course Assessed	SLO Assessed	Semester Assessed	Achievement Level	Plan for Result Application
AM 145	ISLO 1: Working Knowledge	Spring	Threshold	Yes
CRJ 103	ISLO 2: Written Communication	Fall	Target	Yes
GRC 294	ISLO 7: Career Preparation	Spring	Target	Yes