

Student Learning Assurance Report Requirements

AY 2012
Report Date: 10/1/2012
School/College: Arts & Sciences
Department/Program: Art + Architecture/ Architecture and Community Design
Person completing the Report: Tanu Sankalia

1. **Overview Statement:** Briefly summarize the student learning assurance activities that were undertaken this academic year, indicating:
 - a. which program learning outcomes were assessed this year.
 - b. who in your department/program was involved in the evaluation of the above learning outcomes

We covered program learning outcome: 1a, 1b, 1c:

Program Goal: Students will gain a broad understanding of the historic development of architecture and cities and an overview of theories, analyses and criticisms related to historical buildings, landscapes and cities.

Learning Outcomes:

- a) Demonstrate a broad understanding of the development and trajectory of architectural history from prehistoric to contemporary times.
- b) Demonstrate a broad understanding of the concepts and terminology related to urban and architectural history.
- c) Demonstrate ability to identify and describe the key developments in the history of architecture, landscape architecture and urban design.

I was the professor involved with the evaluation of this learning outcome performed on the course, History of Architecture 4, ARCD 204, which is a junior year, first-semester class, Core F, required for majors.

2. **Please Answers the Following Questions for Each of the Student Outcomes Assessed:**

a. What did you do?

Describe clearly and concisely how you assessed the learning outcomes that were evaluated this year (e.g., measures, research methods, etc.). [please use bullet points to answer this question]

Learning outcomes were assessed in 4 areas:

- Observed and evaluated students in their ability to read, critically evaluate and, summarize a text by means of a response paper.
- Observed and evaluated students and their comprehension of the course content by means of multiple-choice test.
- Observed and evaluated students on their ability to demonstrate depth of learning about a given building or city. Students presented group projects that consisted of concept maps.
- Observed and evaluated students on their ability to successfully complete a short research paper.

b. What did the faculty in the department or program learn?

Summarize your findings and conclusions as a result of the student learning assurance indicating strengths and weaknesses in student learning demonstrated by this evaluation.

Faculty observed that more than 65% of the students faired very well, about 30% of the students performed in the good to adequate range. There were about 5% of the students who faired below average. Student performance in relation to course content and course delivery was very good and successful. About 5% of students did not perform adequate as a result of outside conditions (wanting to change major at a late date, family issues etc.) that were not transparent to the professor.

c. What will be done differently as a result of what was learned?

Discuss how courses and/or curricula will be changed to improve student learning as a result of the evaluation. Include a discussion of how the faculty will help students overcome their weaknesses and improve their strengths.

The ARCD program would like to make sure that students who are taking History of Architecture 4 are, and have been, fully committed to the ARCD major. One of the areas that student can improve their performance in is research and writing. Faculty will provide further tutoring with respect to the areas. Other than that, the course is fully succeeding in meeting the goals of the program and the related learning outcomes.

d. What student learning improvement initiatives did you implement as a result of what was learned from this Year's student learning assurance report?

Discuss how courses and/or curricula were changed to improve student learning as a result of the Year's student learning assurance. Include a discussion of how the faculty has helped students overcome their learning weaknesses and improve their strengths.

Over the last two years, we have introduced a new course, ARCD 100, Introduction to Architecture and Community Design. This course will further help students situate and understand the relevance of architectural history in the broader context of the discipline/profession. Next year, Fall 2013, we will have students who have taken this additional requirement, ARCD 100 Introduction to Architecture and Community Design, before entering the History of Architecture 4 course.

3. **Attach a copy of the components of the department/program student learning assurance plan that have been modified since its initial submission:**
 - a. Program Mission
 - b. Program Learning Goals
 - c. Program Learning Outcomes
 - d. Program Learning Rubrics aligned with outcomes
 - e. Curriculum map that shows the courses that pertain to the outcome

Please return to: Office of Student Learning Assurance by September 30.

Please send your replies as Word attachment (to: wmurry@usfca.edu).

If you have any questions, please contact: William Murry, Director of Student Learning Assurance (wmurry@usfca.edu or x5486).