Assessment 201

Aligning **Program-Specific** Student Learning Outcomes with **Course-Specific** Student Learning Outcomes

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Workshop Goals

- Align program outcomes with NYIT mission
- Match core outcomes and program outcomes to specific courses and their student learning outcomes
- Use a matrix to display alignment of core and programmatic outcomes with specific courses

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Everything flows from NYIT mission

- Provide career-oriented education
- Offer access to opportunity to all qualified students
- Support applications-oriented research that benefits the larger world

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Alignment works both ways

- Program outcomes align…
  - UP toward the NYIT mission
  - DOWN toward specific courses

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Align program outcomes with the NYIT mission

- Career-oriented education:
  - Clinical Nutrition
    - Upon graduation, students will be able to assess pathophysiology, risk factors, and clinical manifestation of diseases related to nutrition.
  - Behavioral Sciences/Mental Health Counseling
    - Upon graduation, students will be able to develop a treatment plan for a client based on the client's diagnosis and on theoretical models.

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Align program outcomes with the NYIT mission

- Access to opportunity to all qualified students:
  - Fine Arts/Graphic Design
    - Upon graduation, students will be able to pursue a college level teaching position at the assistant professor rank, due to the classification of the MFA as a terminal degree.
  - Life Sciences/Premedical Option
    - Upon graduation, students will have attained a suitable GPA and MCAT scores to be able to gain admission to an osteopathic or allopathic medical school.

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Align program outcomes with the NYIT mission

- Applications-oriented research that benefits the larger world:
  - Life Sciences/Chemistry
    - Upon graduation, students will be able to develop simple and complex synthetic techniques to prepare new drugs and compounds.
  - Communication Arts
    - Upon graduation, students will be able to critically analyze the historical, social, and cultural impact of the media on our society.

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Align course and program outcomes

- Program Outcome: *Fine Arts/Graphic Design*
  - …create and present work that demonstrates perceptual acuity, conceptual understanding, and technical facility.
- Course Outcome: *Computer Graphics IV (ARTC 351)*
  - …explore their own creativity, interests, and personal strengths in various technologies and their role in the production process of creating a short film.

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Align course and program outcomes

- Program Outcome: *Education/Instructional Technology*
  - ◦ …use appropriate technology to create effective learning environments with differentiated instruction for learners of various backgrounds and abilities.

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Align course and program outcomes

- Program Outcome: *Education/Instructional Technology*
  - ◦ …use appropriate technology to create effective learning environments …
- Course Outcome: *Foundations II: Diversity, Learning, and Technology (EDPC 610)*
  - ◦ …evaluate technology to differentiate and/or accommodate instruction for students with diverse learning styles and special needs in general education classrooms.

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Build Redundancy into the System

- Multiple courses within a program
- Multiple projects within a course

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Alverno College – an example

- Communication
- Analytical abilities
- Problem-solving skills
- Independent decisions, value judgments
- Social interaction
- Responsibility toward global environment
- Effective citizenship
- Aesthetic responsiveness

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Alverno College – an example

- 6 levels of achievement in each competency – for different course levels
  - Beginning abilities (1, 2)
  - Intermediate abilities (3, 4)
  - Advanced abilities (5, 6)
- Students achieve intermediate abilities in all skills
- Advanced abilities in skills that especially apply within their major

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Beginning abilities – Biology

- Recognize and use scientific approach to problems, issues, and events in which scientific perspective is important
- Read general scientific material with understanding and appropriate skepticism
- Communicate biological phenomena qualitatively and quantitatively

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Intermediate abilities – Biology

In the study of plants and animals, demonstrate
- Laboratory skills
- Skills in the investigation process

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Advanced abilities – Biology

- Interpret, utilize and/or design models that illustrate biological mechanisms in specialized areas
- Analyze complex environments and contemporary issues in the context of biological frameworks
- Solve scientific problems independently and collaboratively on-campus and off-campus

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Let's try it …

- Using "**communication**" as our example, define the specific communication skills that *beginning*, *intermediate*, and *advanced* students should display in the context of your discipline.

- Be ready to report out in 10 minutes.

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Keeping track… how it looks

Underwater Basket Weaving – Matrix of Program Learning Outcomes matched to Courses

Outcomes (going across): / Courses (going down):	Literacy	Global perspective	Communication	Critical/analytical thinking	Interdisciplinary mindset	Ethical/moral and citizenship appreciation	Process, nature of sciences, arts	Identify and harvest suitable materials	Determine the appropriate length of time needed to soften reeds by soaking	Design original weaving patterns	Weave reeds into desired pattern and shape	Obtain SCUBA certification	Weave reeds while underwater
UBW 101	X		X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	
UBW 110		X	X				X	X		X		X	X
UBW 156		X	X				X			X	X	X	X
UBW 215	X			X	X	X	X	X					X
UBW 290	X		X		X		X			X			
UBW 350			X			X	X	X	X				X
UBW 470	X		X		X	X	X	X	X		X		
UBW 495		X	X	X			X	X		X		X	

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Keeping track…

- Specific, measurable outcomes
- Matrix to summarize relationships among courses and outcomes
- List outcomes (including core) across top
- List courses down side
- "**X**" in box if course addresses a particular outcome
- DIGITAL FILE will be distributed with a copy of today's slides

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Keeping track… how it looks

Program Name Here – Matrix of Program Learning Outcomes matched to Courses

Outcomes (going across): / Courses (going down):	Literacy	Global perspective	Communication	Critical/analytical thinking	Interdisciplinary mindset	Ethical/moral and citizenship appreciation	Process, nature of sciences, arts	Program-specific outcome 1	Program-specific outcome 2	Program-specific outcome 3	Program-specific outcome 4	Program-specific outcome 5	Program-specific outcome 6
Course #													
Course #													
Course #													
Course #													
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Let's try it …

- Using the degree map and program learning outcomes for one of your programs, complete the blank matrix in your handout.

- Be ready to report out in 10 minutes.

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Next Steps

- Extend what we've done today to all your degree maps and program outcomes
- One matrix for each program (separate files, please; digital files will be emailed to you)
- Consult with Fran as needed
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  ◦ extension 1288 (OW)
  ◦ extension 6089 (MA)

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Questions?

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