ILLINOIS VALLEY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

IVCC Assesses

Assessing IVCC's Institutional Learning Goals & Outcomes

THE ART OF ASSESSMENT

Special Adjunct Edition

THANK YOU

for being a part of the IVCC faculty and preparing our students for their futures.

This newsletter is designed to introduce you to Assessment at IVCC and its processes at the College.

As many of you already now, the last year has been a busy one for IVCC faculty, as we ended our long-term relationship with Blackboard and implemented Brightspace as our new Learning Management System. Brightspace gives us important tools in our quest to improve our assessment practices.

When we talk about *Assessment* at IVCC, we are distinguishing between the assessment of our Institutional Learning Goals (and their attendant Outcomes) and grading students with assignment-specific rubrics or criteria and evaluating students for attainment of individual Course Outcomes—which you may be using already as criteria on rubrics for your assignments.

Assessment is an important duty for all faculty:

- It allows us to gauge our progress and improve our teaching.
- It allows us to document our successes, both within the IVCC community and for accountability to external entities.
- It allows us to analyze our processes and curriculum.
- It allows us earn and retain accreditation.

The rest of this newsletter will explain how you can help us collect this important data.

THE FIRST THING TO KNOW is which Institutional Learning Goals/Outcomes are to be assessed for your course. These can be found on the master Course Outline and/or the course's Assessment Plan or through discussion with your Dean.

All grading is assessment, but not all assessment is grading.

Higher Learning Commission

THE SECOND THING TO KNOW is that we collect our assessment data using Brightspace. This means that even if you do not use Brightspace to manage your class or students' grades, you **do** need to login and create an assignment for them to which you "attach" our Learning Outcomes. If you already use **Brightspace**, you can align ILOs to assignments, discussions, grade columns, and/or quiz questions.

How do you do this?
We have a Brightspace training class for that—so please log in! The main idea is to answer attainment questions on our Institutional Learning Goals' criteria (our Institutional Learning Outcomes or ILOs) based on an assignment that you already evaluate for your students. Once set up in **Brightspace**, this can take only a few seconds per student.

Once you've logged into Brightspace,
1. Click on the Discover link in the center of the top-center navigation bar.
2. In the Discover/Search... box, search for Institutional Learning Goals, Outcomes, and Evidence
3. Click Enroll in Course. You then will be enrolled in the course and see it in your course list.
4. Please work through the course; it should take less than an hour for most people and teach you what you need to know about assessing Learning Outcomes in **Brightspace** courses.
5. The ***Assessment in Brightspace*** webpage has text and video instructions, also:
https://www.ivcc.edu/assessmentcommittee/AssessmentBrightspace.php

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THE THIRD THING TO KNOW is that we would like you to submit the data on your course's ILOs through the Brightspace *after midterm but before your final grades are due*.

The Assessment Committee, CETLA, or your Dean is willing to help you with this. If you have any questions, please contact Assessment Committee co-chair, Kimberly_RadekHall@ivcc.edu.

Please do not neglect the Assessment Fairy. She can get cranky!

ILOs and Outcome Questions

ILO assessment can be done by using one or more questions from the ILO outcomes and rubrics. Each rubric has a list of keywords and evidence for each question. Use the outcomes and questions to align to course assessment. Find the full rubrics using the links below.

ILO#1 - Communication
To communicate effectively

1. Is the student proficient in communicating to or with a specific audience?
2. Is the student proficient in demonstrating purpose and organization?
3. Is the student proficient in synthesizing and supporting ideas?

ILO#2 - Inquiry
To apply critical, logical, creative, aesthetic, or quantitative analytical reasoning to formulate a judgment or conclusion

1. Is the student proficient in gathering and selecting information?
2. Is the student proficient in analyzing or investigating data?
3. Is the student proficient in articulating reasons for decisions or solutions?

ILO#3 - Social Consciousness
To understand what it means to be a socially conscious person, locally and globally

1. Is the student proficient in describing a social system, theoretical framework, culture, or lifestyle?
2. Is the student proficient at appreciating diverse perspectives or differences within social, theoretical, or cultural systems?

ILO#4 - Responsibility
To recognize how personal choices affect self and society

1. Is the student proficient in articulating an assessment of self in relation to others?
2. Is the student proficient in demonstrating awareness of personal responsibility and positioning within a larger context, culture, community, or system of thought?