SLO Assessment Report | K-State First

Fall 2021

**Summary Analysis**

We substantially increased faculty participation in the learning outcomes assessment *process* to nearly full participation, with only a few faculty members failing to fully complete their assessments.

The new assessment process launched in 2019 shows that the program has been effective in helping students learn what we say that should learn.

In our SLO assessment, every student is scored on detailed rubric for each of four core learning outcomes: application of learning, community building, communication skills, and critical thinking. The rubric uses a scale from 1 to 5. A score of 1 represents a failure to achieve the learning outcome, whereas a 2 indicates partial achievement. Students who are proficient or meeting expectations in terms of the specific learning outcome are scored with a 3. At the higher end, a 4 represents some distinction or an exceeding of expectations, whereas a 5 indicates clear mastery. The program goal is to have all students in the 3 to 5 range, and it’s clearly understood that a 5 denotes a stretch goal, one that allows the process to record student work or student learning that is exemplary.

In 2019 and 2020, about 90% of K-State First students performed in the 3 to 5 range: application of learning (90%), community building (91%), communication skills (90%), and critical thinking (92%).

We saw all of these numbers move up in 2021: application of learning (95%), community building (94%), communication skills (94%), and critical thinking in the CAT Communities (94%) and critical thinking the FYS’s (92%). I would have predicted that increased participation in the SLO assessment process and the continuing pandemic would have depressed measurable student learning, but the trend was toward improvements in all cases except the critical thinking outcome for the FYS classes, where we saw no change from 2019 and 2020 to 2021.

*Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Learning Outcome Expectations, 2019 & 2020 to 2021*

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Learning Outcome** | **2019 and 2020** | **2021** |
| Application of Learning | 90% | 95% |
| Community Building | 91% | 94% |
| Communication Skills | 90% | 94% |
| Critical Thinking CAT | 92% | 94% |
| Critical Thinking FYS | 92% | 92% |

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