

Sam Houston State University's Plan for Assessing its Core Curriculum and the THECB's Six Core Learning Objectives

Jeff Roberts and Somer Franklin
Academic Planning and Assessment
Sam Houston State University

Philosophy

Sam Houston State University will use multiple assessment methods to determine the extent to which students are meeting the THECB Core objectives. Where possible, multiple direct measures will be utilized and supplemented with relevant and valid indirect measures for each core objective. Assessment methods and data will be integrated into existing assessment strategies and used for both core curriculum and degree-specific programmatic improvement.

Data by College

College	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
College of Business Administration			CAT			CAT
College of Criminal Justice				CAT		
College of Education			CAT			CAT
College of Fine Arts and Mass Communication				CAT		
College of Health Sciences				CAT		
College of Humanities and Social Sciences		CAT			CAT	
College of Sciences		CAT			CAT	

Rotating Administration

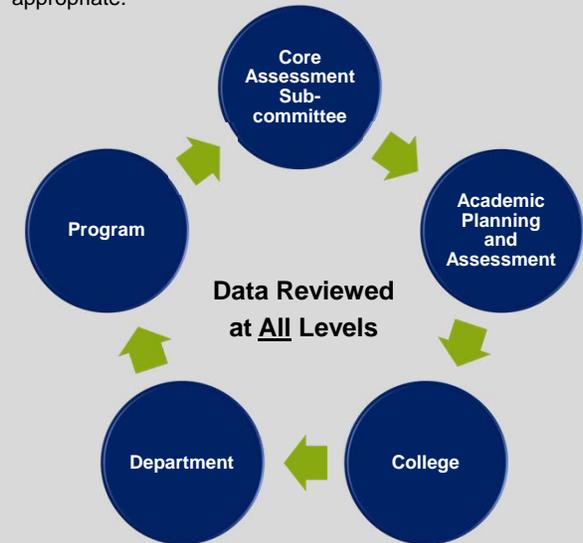
Core Objective	Assessment Measure	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Critical Thinking	CAT	Univ. Pilot	Rotating Admin				
	TACTS	X	X	X	X	X	X
	NSSE		X		X		X

Multiple Methods

Core Objective	Assessment Method	Type
Critical Thinking	Critical Thinking Assessment (CAT) Test	Direct
	Texas Assessment of Critical Thinking Skills (TACTS)	Direct
	National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)	Indirect
Communication Skills	Writing in the Disciplines (WID) Project	Direct
	Freshman English Course-Level Writing Assessment	Direct
	Course-embedded Speech/Presentation Assessment	Direct
	National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)	Indirect
Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Critical Thinking Assessment Test	Direct
	Texas Assessment of Critical Thinking Skills (TACTS)	Direct
	National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)	Indirect
Teamwork	Course-embedded Teamwork Assessment	Direct
	Teamwork Assessment Day	Direct
	National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)	Indirect
Social Responsibility	Academic Community Engagement (ACE) Reflection Assessment	Direct
	Course Embedded Political Science Assessment	Direct
	Benefits Academic Community Engagement (ACE) Scale	Indirect
	Global Perspectives Inventory (GPI)	Indirect
Personal Responsibility	National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)	Indirect
	Academic Community Engagement (ACE) Reflection Assessment	Direct
	Benefits Academic Community Engagement (ACE) Scale	Indirect
	Global Perspectives Inventory (GPI)	Indirect
Personal Responsibility	National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)	Indirect

Results and Analysis

Results of core objective assessments will be evaluated at the institutional, college, department, and program levels as appropriate.



Actions and Follow-up

On an annual basis, the core objective sub-committees and programmatic assessment representatives will meet to review assessment results and develop appropriate action plans.

- These action plans will be documented through the core assessment process, and for programmatic assessment, within the university's online assessment tracking database.
- Core objective sub-committees and programmatic assessment representatives will be required to document both progress on prior year's action plans and future actions necessary for core objective and/or programmatic improvement.
- A plan for improvement of student learning will grow organically as the assessment process progresses.

Core assessment strategies. . .

- Should be integrated into existing programmatic assessments where possible
- Should include data review and feedback at all levels
- Utilize both course-embedded and end-of-experience measures

Above all else, core assessment must be meaningful to be effective!

