General Education Annual Course Assessment Form

Course Number/Title: **Math 8**  
GE Area: **B4**

Results reported for AY: **2016-2017**  
# of sections: **23**  
# of instructors: **8**

Course Coordinator: **Tim Hsu**  
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Department Chair: **Maria (Bem) Cayco**  
College: **Science**

**Instructions**: Each year, the department will prepare a brief (two page maximum) report that documents the assessment of the course during the year. This report will be **electronically submitted to <curriculum@sjsu.edu>**, by the department chair, to the Office of Undergraduate Studies, with an electronic copy to the home college by October 1 of the following academic year.

**Part 1**

To be completed by the course coordinator:

(1) What GELO(s) were assessed for the course during the AY?

SLO 2: Mathematical concepts courses should prepare the student to demonstrate the ability to use mathematics to solve real life problems.

(2) What were the results of the assessment of this course? What were the lessons learned from the assessment?

Assessment data was collected from all 23 sections of Math 8 offered in AY 2016-2017.

Using embedded questions on the final exam, we found that 60.8% of the 627 students who took Math 8 performed at the C level or higher on questions related to SLO 2. This is a slight improvement on the 57% obtained in 2013-2014 when SLO 2 was last assessed. Students enrolled in Math 8 do not generally have strong mathematical backgrounds, so it is not surprising that they find word problems to be challenging.

The embedded questions used for this assessment are:

(Fall 2016) The popularity of the children's card game *Poke Me, Man!* has exploded since 2010. To be precise, the number of *Poke Me, Man!* cards owned by American children can be modelled by the function $P(t) = 75000e^{0.05t}$, where $P(t)$ is the number of cards owned by American children $t$ months after the beginning of 2010. How many months passed after the beginning of 2010 before the number of *Poke Me, Man!* cards owned by American children reached 1,000,000 (one million)?

(Spring 2017) You invest $200,000 in the bank, in an account that pays 5% interest, compounded continuously. The balance in your account $t$ years after you open it will be $P(t) = 200000e^{0.05t}$. How many years after you open the account will it take for the account balance to reach $300,000?
(3) What modifications to the course, or its assessment activities or schedule, are planned for the upcoming year? (If no modifications are planned, the course coordinator should indicate this.)

No modifications to the course, assessment activities, or assessment schedule are planned for Math 8.

Part 2

To be completed by the department chair (with input from course coordinator as appropriate):

(4) Are all sections of the course still aligned with the area Goals, Student Learning Objectives (GELOs), Content, Support, and Assessment? If they are not, what actions are planned?

Yes, all sections of Math 8 are still aligned with the B4 area goals.

(5) If this course is in a GE Area with a stated enrollment limit (Areas A1, A2, A3, C2, D1, R, S, V, & Z), please indicate how oral presentations will be evaluated with larger sections (Area A1), or how practice and revisions in writing will be addressed with larger sections, particularly how students are receiving thorough feedback on the writing which accounts for the minimum word count in this GE category (Areas A2, A3, C2, D1, R, S, V, & Z) and, for the writing intensive courses (A2, A3, and Z), documentation that the students are meeting the GE GELOs for writing.

N/A