General Education Annual Course Assessment Form

Course Number/Title: 100W  
GE Area:  

Results reported for AY F12 – S13  
# of sections: 16  
# of instructors: 7 different instructors  

Course Coordinator: Clifton M. Oyamot, Associate Professor  
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Department Chair: Ron Rogers  
College: Social 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, by the department chair, to the Office of Undergraduate Studies, with an electronic copy to the home college by September 1 of the following academic year.

Part 1

To be completed by the course coordinator:

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

   GE CLO1: refine the competencies established in Written Communication IA and IB.

   Assessment tool: online 18-item Research Skill Proficiency pre- and posttest (http://tiny.cc/psycskills)

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

   CLO1 assessment was done using an online 18-item Research Skill Proficiency test, developed in conjunction with Bernd Becker, Sr. Assistant Librarian (http://tiny.cc/psycskills). Students completed a pretest (beginning of the semester) and a posttest (end of semester). A total of 16 sections from both Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 were represented, with 210 students completing both the pretest and posttest. Previous analysis showed that better performance on the posttest was associated with better grades on the final term paper for the course (see Psychology 100W GE Annual Assessment Report AY 10-11 and AY11-12), supporting the validity of this test as an indicator of the ability to summarize, synthesize, and analyze within our disciplinary standards.

   Average Pretest score = 77% (SD = 11%, range = 22 – 100%)
   Average Posttest score = 87% (SD = 10%, range 56 - 100%)

   Students displayed developing mastery of research skills and improved significantly after completing Psychology 100W (which included a library tutorial session led by Mr. Becker), t (555) = 10.77, p < .001.

   The current Research Skill Proficiency test has been used since Fall 2010, and there are emerging trends in student performance. There is a high degree of consistency thus far in pre- and posttest performance. Pretest scores across the annual reports have ranged from 75 – 77%, and posttest scores ranged from 85 – 88%. There is a general improvement of about 10% across the 3 years of reports.

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 are planned.
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 (SLOs), Content, Support, and Assessment? If they are not, what actions are planned?

All sections are aligned with the area Goals, Student Learning Objectives (SLOs), Content, Support, and Assessment. Instructors have access to a generic template with all the necessary GE elements, and instructors are routinely reminded at the start of each semester of those required elements.