

- ~~purpose of the program~~ align with the Dominican mission “..prepares students to pursue truth, ~~to~~ ~~be~~ ~~compassionate~~ service and to participate in the creation of a more just and
- ~~indicate that the university~~ indicate that the program’s efforts are somewhat unique from other programs
- be agreed upon by the faculty in the program

.Step 2 Develop program goals. Goals should:

- ~~state what~~ state what students should know, care about, or be able to do upon completion of
- ~~have a~~ have a clear relationship to the mission of the program, college or school, and
- direct the teaching and learning efforts in the program

Step 3 Develop specific learning outcomes for students in the program. Student learning outcomes should:

- be results oriented and easily understood
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Step 4) Develop measures to assess the student learning outcomes. These measures should:

- yield useful and valid results (the measures should actually evaluate progress on the intended goals and learning outcomes)
- be realistic (make sure the program will be able to develop/administer/analyze/utilize the measures)
- be comprehensive (taken as a whole, the measures should assess as many learning outcomes as possible)
- represent multiple methods of measuring learning outcomes (examples below)
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Step 8) Analyze the information obtained

- analyze data from each assessment separately to see if goals and outcomes are being met
- if possible, aggregate data from multiple assessments to provide an overall indicator of progress
- track data from similar assessments over time to identify trends

Step 9) Communicate assessment results.

- gather faculty and staff involved in the program to discuss information obtained
- discuss areas of relative strength and weakness, as well as any trends noticed over time

Step 10) Evaluate the program (and the assessment plan) based on results.

- identify potential areas of improvement for the program
- revise the goals and outcomes as necessary in line with the results of the assessments
- utilize the reports of assessment findings to develop budget priorities, update the department's strategic plan and/or program review document, and update the plan for the next year