

University of Houston - Ongoing Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Elements</i>	<i>Methods</i>	<i>Focus</i>
Academic Program Assessment Reports (APAR)	The APAR contains descriptions of student learning outcomes and assessment activities for each degree program at UH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statement of learning outcomes • Description of assessments used to collect student performance data relative to outcomes • Description of student performance benchmarks • Assessment results and analysis • Description of program improvement plans and prior improvements 	Every year, performance data are collected, analyzed, and reported. Data sources include student projects and papers, performances, specific test elements, and internship performance.	Every degree program in the university describes its assessment process via the APAR. Program faculty plan, conduct, and report assessments with the assistance of a team of university assessment specialists.
General Education Assessment	<p>The general education assessment examines student learning relative to six core objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • critical thinking skills • communication skills • empirical and quantitative skills • teamwork • personal responsibility • social responsibility 	Core objectives are embedded in the core curriculum. Instructors in core courses identify specific assessments that give students an opportunity to demonstrate the relevant skill or knowledge.	Multi-disciplinary faculty teams evaluate instructor-identified student work products selected from assessments in core courses. Evaluation of these products is conducted using faculty-designed rubrics (modeled on appropriate AAC&U VALUE rubrics) that articulate criteria for each of the core objectives.	University-wide assessments of student work in these areas are conducted by interdepartmental faculty teams. The findings inform our internal decision making, and help us to keep our focus on outcomes we consider essential for our students.