

SPRING 2015 SLO/PLO ASSESSMENT REPORT

Date: June 29, 2015

Name of Person Reporting: David Jordan

Name of Department and/or Discipline: Law/Paralegal Program

1. a. List the courses/certificates/programs your discipline/department assessed in the Spring 2015 semester. All 12 Law Classes for the paralegal program (Law 1,2,10,11,12,13,16,17,18,19,20,34)

SLOs (Student Evaluations of all of our law faculty) were re-assessed a 2nd time. The first assessment was conducted in Fall 2014 Semester so comparisons could be made, and improvements implemented.

No PLO's were assessed.

- b. For each one, indicate whether the benchmark (standard for student success) was reached.

The benchmark of 70% was met or exceeded in all assessments.

2. Summarize the major assessment results for courses/programs in your area.

The SLO demonstrated that our program needs to use more videos, reduce weekly discussion forums, provide more tips and lectures on topics, better distribute work at end of the semester when final projects are due, place resources in one place easy to access, more essay work, more sample completed forms, more real life cases, less dead links, online and on campus tutors, update instructions on assignments, more time to complete tests

3. Summarize what changes have been made or are planned to be made as a result of the assessments.

Our program has adopted a new video screencasting platform during the Spring 2015 semester (Zoom.Us). Some videos were introduced using it during the semester.

Projected changes:

1. Train all law faculty in using Zoom.Us to provide video lectures
2. Review discussion forums - make more relevant to current legal issues, and only every other week.
3. Reduce number of assignments, and better distribute especially at end of semester when final projects are due

4. Provide more essays, and time on tests
 5. Place all resources for the class in one place for easy access
 6. Review assignments for accuracy, spelling, and clarity, and test links to see if active and current
 7. Look into westlaw for legal research (do not renew lexis-nexis contract)
 8. Provide more samples of completed forms, rubrics, and videos and screencasts on how forms are to be completed
4. **Follow up on previous assessments:**
- (1) If an SLO was assessed previously, compare the results with the earlier assessments:
Compared to Spring 2014 and Fall 2014, instructors are providing more timely feedback and interaction with the students.
- (a) Have the recommended changes been implemented? Assignments have been reviewed and updated in law 16 and 19, and in Fall 2015, law instructors will work on updating their class materials.
- (b) Has the follow-up textbox been filled in on the SLO online system? We will check the follow up textbook this semester for first time once all of the current SLO assessment results have been posted to the system.
- (2) How have the findings led to improved student learning? Students have improved in the content of their assignments. Even with the small increase with the use of videos, students feel more engaged with their assignments, the class and with their instructors.
5. Have the results of your assessments been shared and discussed among the members of your program? (Provide dates and any minutes of meetings as evidence. Please also post relevant minutes in the Department Notes section of the SLO Online system.) The SLOS results of student surveys were shared in early May with all of our instructors, and instructors requested to review, analyze, and provide comments, and strategies to improve our law classes.
6. Have the results of your assessments been shared and discussed with members of your advisory committee (if vocational program)? No. Our last Advisory Meeting was in May, and we will have an Advisory meeting in November and we will share the assessment results with our Advisory at that time. We will also use the zoom.us platform to add a more law discipline meetings to implement suggested changes and improvements in the program. The planned meetings are - 8/25/15 - back to Fall semester meeting, and training in zoom.us, and drafting of new set of SLOS and assessments based on writing rubrics, 10/25/15 - follow up on videos and implementation of projected changes 1-8 above, and writing rubric assessments, and 12/27/15 - semester wrap up, review and analysis of assessments for Fall 2015, and implementation of changes

- 7. What resource requests are planned as a result of the assessments? The new Pathways to Law Program has opened a Resource Center in LRC 234. Our Law program will seek funding through the State Pathways initiative to provide training of online and on campus tutors. No resource requests required from the college budget.**
- 8. Have the assessment results been posted on the online system? All assessment results have been posted online.**