

Survey of Departmental Assessment

Department: UH Hilo School of Nursing

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1. Does your department regularly engage in assessment? (if no, go directly to #5)

The SON engages in assessment meetings once a month for 1 ½ hour sessions. If needed the faculty meet more often as needed. The curriculum/assessment meetings involve discussion regarding accreditation processes, and student ATI scores. With the review, support can be provided to the student.

In addition the SON has two retreats per year where we review 3 courses on a rotating schedule. The teaching faculty present the course, grade range, textbook used , etc... If a lecturer teaches the course we invite the lecturer for the review of the course.

2. If yes, what has your department done in the past 5 years? (Give a brief description of what was done and the results of what was found. Use the back of this page if needed.)

1. Course review, 6 per academic year on a rotating basis
2. Text book examination and suggestions
3. Course discussion regarding returning RNs needing to improve writing skills. The result of the discussion was the development of a one credit course for RNs in the RN to BSN program entitled "Professional Writing" , the course is also open for generic students.
4. WASC RN to BSN review. Rubric developed, outcome objectives developed. (Approved)
5. WASC review. Doctor of Nursing Practice (WASC approved)
6. Students take competency exams in most core courses through a company called ATI. With these scores faculty are able to assess student learning needs and then support the student in areas that need attention.
7. A grid of outcomes , ie, transcultural nursing, leadership, etc..are listed then cross check across all courses in the curriculum. Faculty can then assess areas where there may be a lot of overlap or areas that we do not cover outcomes , then teaching can be adjusted to ensure we are engaging students in the outcome areas within the curriculum. Recently we were able to see where APA was covered, where transcultural caring was covered, and where pharmacology was highlighted. This was part of the most recent retreat agenda.
8. A grid of outcomes was developed with the assistance of the WASC liaison, April, for the Doctor of Nursing practice proposal . Online teaching/learning guidelines were approved, assessment rubric were developed.

9. Part of program effectiveness is assessment of NCLEX passrates. (National licensure examination)

3. Who was involved in this? (All of the department? Just full-time faculty? One man show?)

All faculty participate. Currently as part of the upcoming self-study for the BSN program, as well as the first site visit, for the DNP program, each faculty have standard (they are working in pairs) and our first meeting regarding this program assessment will be in June.

4. And what happened with the information that was collected? Did the information lead to any initiatives or changes?

One example was the development of the Professional Writing course.

After an ATI review we saw that we needed more pharmacology, so two assessments are now implemented in the senior Adult Health course at the beginning of the course and towards the end of the course. At the most recent retreat we discussed placing that in the review course for senior students.

After the last review the it was suggested that the Adult Health course which is taught one semester to juniors and the second semester with seniors, yet it was the same text, so leveling was needed, which faculty worked on and presented in a faculty meeting.

5. What will it take to either start assessment in your department or to help you achieve/maintain the level of assessment you think is needed/appropriate?

I think that designating one meeting time solely for assessment /curriculum has helped to maintain assessment, but we are still always trying to play catch up, and of course there are some faculty much more engaged and committed than others. Maintaining our Board of Nursing approval and accreditation status most faculty are willing to participate and support such an important part of a successful program (s). 😊