

SUMMARY OF LEARNING OUTCOME ASSESSMENTS
FOR 2018-2019 IN THE PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Prepared by Michael Church, Ph.D.

Key aspects of assessed learning outcomes are highlighted here, as they were in 2017-2018, allowing us to track our progress (or lack thereof) of important departmental goals.

Overall, our results for 2018-2019 were quite favorable. The one exception was with interpretation of statistics. Comprehensive assessment results for the past 7 years are available in our department and in the offices of key administrators. We also continue to monitor our overall impact via the Major Field Test (MFT) in Psychology and those data are included in our annual assessments, as well as other notable findings. Note that comparisons of 2017-2018 vs. 2018-2019 MFT results at the end of this report show improvements in performance of our students in all four foundational areas assessed.

PSYCHOLOGY 2018-2019

LEARNING OUTCOME #1 – COMPUTATION ABILITY

Assessment Measures/Methods	Target/Benchmark	Results	Action
Course – Psych 220 Homework, tests and projects/Papers.	Understand how to compute from data sets. 70% met or exceeded expectation and less than 10% deficient.	5% deficient – 14% need improvement – 38% met expectation – 43% exceeded expectations. We exceeded both benchmarks.	Continue with courses in place.

PSYCHOLOGY 2018-2019

LEARNING OUTCOME #2 – INTERPRETATION OF STATISTICS

Assessment Measures/Methods	Target/Benchmark	Results	Action
Course – Psych 220 Homework assignments, tests and projects.	Understand what statistical methods to use and how to interpret data. 70% met or exceeded criteria and less than 10% deficient.	19% deficient – 29% need improvement – 28% met expectations – 24% exceeded expectations. We fell below expectation on both counts.	Encourage more students to take statistics lab and consider making it a requirement. Also, spend more time in class on interpretation of data.

PSYCHOLOGY 2018-2019

LEARNING OUTCOME #3 – UNDERSTAND RESEARCH DESIGN

Assessment Measures/Methods	Target/Benchmark	Results	Action
Course – Psych 221 Lecture, exams and research paper/project.	Develop ability to design and implement ethical and appropriate research. 70% met or exceeded expectations and less than 10% deficient.	0% deficient – 14% need improvement – 72% met expectations – 14% exceeded expectations. We met both benchmarks.	None required at this time. Signs of improvement on these criteria.

PSYCHOLOGY 2018-2019

LEARNING OUTCOME #4 –APPLICATION OF STATS TO RESEARCH

Assessment Measures/Methods	Target/Benchmark	Results	Action
Course – Psych 221 Exams, projects and paper assignments.	Understand what statistical methods apply to various data sets and how to interpret them from the experimental design framework. 70% met or exceeded expectations and were less than 10% deficient.	0% deficient – 14% need improvement – 72% met expectations – 14% exceeded expectations. We exceeded expectations on both benchmarks.	N/A Results were quite favorable and show improvement.

PSYCHOLOGY 2018-2019

LEARNING OUTCOME #5 – SCIENTIFIC WRITING

Assessment Measures/Methods	Target/Benchmark	Results	Action
Course – Psych 450 Readings, assignments, and senior capstone posture construction. Evaluation of quality and comprehensiveness of research paper and poster.	Present research in APA style with accuracy, objectivity and analytical clarity. 70% met or exceeded expectations and less than 10% deficient.	0% deficient – 29% need improvement – 54% met expectations - 17% exceeded expectations. We met both benchmarks.	Showed definite improvement in this area.

PSYCHOLOGY 2018-2019

LEARNING OUTCOME #6 – EFFECTIVE ORAL COMMUNICATION

Assessment Measures/Methods	Target/Benchmark	Results	Action
Course – Psych 450 Presentation of posture and discussions with students and faculty.	Effectively communicates theory and results supporting psychological outcomes, principles and implications displayed in posture. 70% met expectation or exceeded such and less than 10% deficient.	4% deficient – 29% need improvement – 67% met expectation – 8% exceeded expectation. We exceeded both benchmarks.	N/A

Junior Diagnostics (Research Methods Spring 19):

Objective 1: Understanding Professional Lit

Deficient: 0%

Needs Improvement: 14% (3/21)

Meets Expectations: 72% (15/21)

Exceeds Expectations: 14% (3/21)

Objective 2: Understanding Research Design

Deficient: 0%

Needs Improvement: 14% (3/21)

Meets Expectations: 72% (15/21)

Exceeds Expectations: 14% (3/21)

Objective 3: Understanding Strengths and Weaknesses of Research Designs

Deficient: 0%

Needs Improvement: 5% (1/21)

Meets Expectations: 81% (17/21)

Exceeds Expectations: 14% (3/21)

Objective 4: Understanding the Application of Statistics to Research Methods

Deficient: 0%

Needs Improvement: 14% (3/21)

Meets Expectations: 72% (15/21)

Exceeds Expectations: 14% (3/21)

Objective 5: Professional Presentation

Deficient: 0%

Needs Improvement: 0%

Meets Expectations: 100% (21/21)

Exceeds Expectations: 0%

2018-2019

Major Field Test:

Overall score: 75% scored 20th percentile or better and 21% scored 50th percentile or better.

Learning & Cognition (Sub-score 1): 50% scored 20th percentile or better, and 17% scored 50th percentile or better.

Biological (Sub-score 2): 79% scored 20th percentile or better, and 29% scored 50th percentile or better.

Clinical (Sub-score 3): 79% scored 20th percentile or better, and 33% scored 50th percentile or better.

Developmental (Sub-score 4): 71% scored 20th percentile or better, and 21% scored 50th percentile or better.

Sophomore Diagnostics

Objective 1: Computational Ability

Deficient: 5%

Needs Improvement: 14%

Meets Expectations: 38%

Exceeds Expectations: 43%

Objective 2: Interpretations of Statistics

Deficient: 19%

Needs Improvement: 29%

Meets Expectations: 28%

Exceeds Expectations: 24%

Junior Capstone

Objective 1: Topic Selection

Deficient: 0%

Needs Improvement: 12.5%

Meets Expectations: 62.5%

Exceeds Expectations: 25%

Objective 1: Lit Review

Deficient: 4%

Needs Improvement: 17%

Meets Expectations: 54%

Exceeds Expectations: 25%

Objective 3: APA Format

Deficient: 0%

Needs Improvement: 4%

Meets Expectations: 96%

Exceeds Expectations: 0%

Objective 4: Scientific Writing

Deficient: 0%

Needs Improvement: 29%

Meets Expectations: 54%

Exceeds Expectations: 17%

Objective 5: History & Systems

N/A

Objective 6: Research Design

Deficient: 4%

Needs Improvement: 21%

Meets Expectations: 67%

Exceeds Expectations: 8%

Objectives 7-8: Effective Oral Communication

Deficient: 4%

Needs Improvement: 4%

Meets Expectations: 71%

Exceeds Expectations: 21%

Major Field Test Results

(2017-2018 vs. 2018-2019)

<u>Overall Score</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>
20 th percentile or greater	57%	75%
50 th percentile or greater	19%	21%
<u>Learning & Cognition</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>
20 th percentile or greater	29%	50%
50 th percentile or greater	14%	17%
<u>Biological</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>
20 th percentile or greater	67%	79%
50 th percentile or greater	14%	29%
<u>Clinical</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>
20 th percentile or greater	67%	79%
50 th percentile or greater	19%	33%
<u>Developmental</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>
20 th percentile or greater	57%	71%
50 th percentile or greater	19%	21%