

**Wright College
Program/Discipline Assessment Midyear Update**

Program/Discipline: English	Coordinator: Phillip M. Virgen
Date: 11/30/07	Department Chair: Arlene Weaver

Assessment Plan to Date

<p>Completely describe all actions that have occurred since August 2007 with respect to your department's Assessment Plan.</p> <p>Attach any relative documents (rubrics, surveys, other assessment tools).</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. During Faculty Development Week, the English dept met to discuss and approve an assessment plan that addressed concerns about students' class preparation. In a survey conducted by the English department the previous Spring semester, students revealed that they were prepared for class less than 50% of the time. The department decided to address this serious problem by using study/prep questions that would require students to read and reflect on their assignments before the class meeting or class discussion. English 101 was selected as the focus for the Fall semester. Ten full-time (101) faculty are participating in the assessment project. 2. A follow-up meeting was held on Sept. 19 to discuss and answer questions raised about the nature of the assessment project. The questions were mostly about how to adapt our assessment instrument: a series of strategies for enhancing student preparation for class. Because there is a diversity of teaching methods/approaches to English 101, faculty wanted to make sure that they were conducting the assessment project correctly. After discussion, a number of misconceptions and misunderstandings (due to the haste with which we had to develop our dept. assessment plan) were resolved and the faculty agreed to follow a number of common criteria (see assessment plan) and with the details for specific classes to be worked out by the individual instructor. 3. At approximately the same time, Suzanne Sanders-Betzold created a bliki for the English 101 assessment cohort to help as a tool to help us organize our work on the project. 4. The assessment continues with an in-class survey (given to the classes of the 101 cohort instructors) that will measure how close we came to meeting our benchmarks (see assessment plan) this semester. 5. Near the conclusion of the semester the "raw data"/student responses will be collected and evaluated. The evaluation and analysis will continue into the beginning of the new semester.
<p>Are there any obstacles to the implementation of the plan that the Assessment Committee should know about or can assist with?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I'm not sure it is an obstacle, but it appears to be a significant challenge: how do we archive/store the assessment materials we are collecting from each 101 instructor? The accumulated data will easily amount to hundreds of pages, if not a thousand. Any suggestions for archiving our grade books, portfolios, files, etc.?

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Timeline for Second Half

Month	Assessment Coordinator events	Assessment Plan
December '07		
January '08		
February '08	Assess Com. Mtg. 2/15 S101, 10:00 am	
March '08		
April '08	Assess. Com. Mtg. 4/18 S101, 10:00 am	
May '08	Data collected and compiled, conclusion and suggestions for next year; report submitted	
Summer '08	Assess Com. Mtg. TBA	