

# **Wright College Academic Department/Program Assessment Project (Visual and Performing Arts Department) Fall 2016-Spring 2017**

## **WHAT?**

Describe the purpose of this assessment project.

Survey results from an assessment survey conducted by faculty of their students/classes in Fall 2016 showed, as a department, we could use digital tools more in our classes. A plan was created for faculty to implement an assignment in their classes, however small, that would require students to use computers or digital tools.

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## **WHY?**

Describe your department/program's reasons for taking on this project and the areas of your department/program that are involved.

All the disciplines in VPA were encouraged to implement a digitally-oriented project. The goal of course being to increase digital literacy across the board.

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## **HOW?**

Describe the participants, methods, and the timeline for this project.

Faculty were emailed in December 2016 informing them of the results of the survey from Fall 2016. They were then asked to design/include a digitally-motivated assignment in their classes and to try and implement this and submit a report to me, the Assessment Coordinator, by end of April 2017.

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## **WHAT WE FOUND**

The two questions that mattered most from our survey were the following:

**# 5. "How has this class encouraged you to use computers in academic work?"**

**#8. "How often do you use the computer lab for your work in this class?"**

## **VPA Department Improvement Plan for spring 2017 semester**

**#5 - Encourage more students to use computers in academic work.**

**#8 - Encourage more frequent use of the computer lab for work in class.**

Faculty will encourage students to use computers in the remaining half of the semester by assigning computer related research, projects, small assignments.

### **Next Steps, possibly Re-Survey students in April**

Our department decided we would not re-administer the survey to track our progress and measure our performance against our previous benchmarks but instead faculty would submit written statements to the Assessment Coordinator of their class plans to include a digitally-oriented assignment. Below were some of the assignments included/created by faculty:

1. Using Google Docs to create and post/store assignments
  2. Creating assignments that are done and graded on Blackboard
  3. Having students do papers and post on Blackboard
  4. Use of Blackboard for regular class announcements, grade tracking.
  5. Use of phone apps such as Goosechase and Instagram
  6. Producing films through phone apps
  7. Use of presentation software such as Google Presents, Prezi or Powerpoint for various presentations
  8. Use of Film editing software
  9. Comparison assignments between photography in museums and digital-curated events
  10. Comparison assignments of curated photographs between digital photo albums and "real" photo albums
  11. Use of ArtSTor/Wikipedia/Google Art
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