UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
PULASKI TECH

Assessment Report:
2019-2020
READ 0300: Foundations of Literacy

Course-Level Learning Outcomes

1. What are the Course-Level Outcomes (CLOs)?

Upon completion of Foundations of Literacy, the student will be able to:

- analyze context clues to determine the meaning of words and phrases;
- identify the stated and implied main idea and central point as well as supporting details in a passage;
- make inferences based upon information in reading passages;
- recognize the structure and organization of paragraphs in informational and literary texts; and
- recognize facts, opinions, purpose and tone in reading passages.

2. Which CLOs were addressed for this academic year? (2019-2020)

The CLO addressed during 2019 – 2020 was as follows:

Identify the stated and implied main idea and central point as well as supporting details in a passage.

3. Which CLOs are being addressed in your assessment plan next academic year? (2020-2021)

The same CLO will be addressed for the 2020-2021 academic year.

4. Explain the assessment cycle.

The assessment cycle will be the fall and spring semester.

At the end of the spring semester, the faculty will review and analyze the assessment data for the academic year and make revisions, as needed.

5. What are the assessment methods? Are they direct or indirect?

The Foundations of Literacy course is skill-based. The assessment method is direct.

In the fall of 2018, the Literacy faculty developed a common final exam for the course. The exam has two reading passages with questions that encompass all of the skills covered in Foundations of Literacy. Full-time and adjunct instructors are required to administer the exam to their students.

The lead faculty completed an item analysis of four questions that relate to the CLO being assessed.

The faculty and chair met in the fall of 2020 to review the data related to this CLO and collaborate on adjustments that need to be made.

6. What are the assessment goal(s)?

The goal is for students to score at the proficiency level of 70% or above on each assessment question.

7. What were the findings for this academic year? (2019-2020)

Of the 664 students enrolled in Foundations of Literacy during the fall of 2019 and spring of 2020 (442 in the fall and 222 in the spring), 62% or 414 (284 in the fall and 130 in the spring) were assessed with the common final exam. The 250 (158 in the fall and 92 in the spring) who were not assessed did not take the final exam or withdrew before it was administered.

Four questions focusing on main ideas and supporting details were assessed (two main idea/implied main idea and two supporting details). The data revealed that 60% of the students answered the main idea questions correctly in the fall and 58% in the spring. The data revealed that 53% of the students answered the supporting details questions correctly in the fall and spring.

8. **What is your analysis of the findings?**

The Blackboard item analysis of the questions assessed revealed that the assessment goal of 70% proficiency level of identifying the main idea and supporting details was not met during the 2019-2020 academic year.

The common writing assignment was not implemented across the board; therefore, it was not used as an assessment tool.

9. **What is the action plan for the next academic year? (2020-2021) Explain.**

The faculty will continue to assess the same CLO and strive to improve the proficiency level.

For the academic year of 2020 – 2021, it was decided to give more opportunities to practice this skill and use the common Chapter 5 Exam which focuses entirely on topics, main ideas, and supporting details. This exam will give more questions to use in assessing students' skills.

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Also, an assignment will be implemented to assess the students' skill in writing the topic, stated or implied main idea, and supporting details.

At the end of the spring semester, the results of both assessments will be reviewed and analyzed by the faculty to determine what needs to be added, deleted, changed or completely revamped for this CLO.