

## 2013-2014 ANNUAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

This template intends to make our annual assessment and its reports simple, clear, and of high quality not only for this academic year but also for the years to come. Thus, it explicitly specifies some of the best assessment practices and/or expectations implied in the four WASC assessment rubrics we have used in the last few years (see the information below\* that has appeared in Appendices 1, 2a, 2b, and 7 in the *Feedback for the 2011-2012 Assessment Report*; Appendix 2 in the *Feedback for the 2012-2013 Assessment Report*, and Appendices 5 to 8 in the *2013-2014 Annual Assessment Guideline*).

We understand some of our programs/departments have not used and/or adopted these best practices this year, and that is okay. You do not need to do anything extra this year, and ALL YOU NEED TO DO is to report what you have done this academic year. However, we hope our programs will use many of these best practices in the annual assessment in the future.

We also hope to use the information from this template to build a digital database that is simple, clear, and of high quality. If you find it necessary to modify or refine the wording or the content of some of the questions to address the specific needs of your program, please make the changes and highlight them in red. We will consider your suggestion(s). Thank you!

If you have any questions or need any help, please send an email to Dr. Amy Liu ([liuqa@csus.edu](mailto:liuqa@csus.edu)), Director of University Assessment. We are looking forward to working with you.

\*The four WASC rubrics refer to: 1) WASC “Rubric for Assessing the Quality of Academic Program Learning Outcomes”; 2) WASC “Rubric for Assessing the Use of Capstone Experience for Assessing Program Learning Outcomes”; 3) WASC “Rubric for Assessing the Use of Portfolio for Assessing Program Learning Outcomes”; and 4) WASC “Rubric for Assessing the Integration of Student Learning Assessment into Program Reviews”.

### Part 1: Background Information

**B1. Program name:** [\_\_\_\_Social Science BA\_\_\_\_]

**B2. Report author(s):** [\_\_David M. Lang\_\_\_\_]

**B3. Fall 2012 enrollment:** [\_110\_\_\_\_]

Use the *Department Fact Book 2013* by OIR (Office of Institutional Research) to get the fall 2012 enrollment: (<http://www.csus.edu/oir/Data%20Center/Department%20Fact%20Book/Departmental%20Fact%20Book.html>).

**B4. Program type: [SELECT ONLY ONE]**

X	1. Undergraduate baccalaureate major
	2. Credential
	3. Master's degree
	4. Doctorate: Ph.D./E.D.D.
	5. Other, specify:

## Part 2: Six Questions for the 2013-2014 Annual Assessment

### Question 1 (Q1): Program Learning Outcomes (PLO) Assessed in 2013-2014.

**Q1.1.** Which of the following program learning outcomes (PLOs) or Sac State Baccalaureate Learning Goals did you assess **in 2013-2014**? (See 2013-2014 Annual Assessment Report Guidelines for more details). **[CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]**

	1. Critical thinking (WASC 1) *
	2. Information literacy (WASC 2)
X	3. Written communication (WASC 3)
	4. Oral communication (WASC 4)
	5. Quantitative literacy (WASC 5)
X	6. Inquiry and analysis
	7. Creative thinking
	8. Reading
	9. Team work
	10. Problem solving
	11. Civic knowledge and engagement – local and global
	12. Intercultural knowledge and competency
	13. Ethical reasoning
	14. Foundations and skills for lifelong learning
	15. Global learning
	16. Integrative and applied learning
	17. Overall competencies for GE Knowledge
	18. Overall competencies in the major/discipline
	19. Others. Specify any PLOs that were <b>assessed in 2013-2014 but not included above:</b> a. b. c.

\* One of the WASC's new requirements is that colleges and universities report on the level of student performance **at graduation** in five core areas: **critical thinking, information literacy, written communication, oral communication, and quantitative literacy.**

#### **Q1.1.1.** Please provide more detailed information about the PLO(s) you checked above:

Students in this class are required to create a portfolio including, among other items, several examples of previously graded written work from their various coursework in the Social Science Program accompanied by “reflection essays.” In these essays, they must demonstrate their strengths and weaknesses, discuss pedagogy, and align their coursework to the California Framework as they pertain to teaching in the public, social science, high school classroom. These portfolios and the accompanying presentations are evaluated by the faculty member teaching the course, the Director of the Program, and other faculty in the disciplines.

The outcome was assessed by including the “Integrative Learning VALUE Rubric” developed by the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AACU) in our Portfolio Rubric – as we have done for the past 4 years now. That Rubric is available on the AACU.org website.

#### **Q1.2.** Are your PLOs closely aligned with the mission of the university?

X	1. Yes
	2. No
	3. Don't know

**Q1.3.** Is your program externally accredited (except for WASC)?

X	1. Yes
	2. No <b>(If no, go to Q1.4)</b>
	3. Don't know <b>(Go to Q1.4)</b>

**Q1.3.1.** If yes, are your PLOs closely aligned with the mission/goals/outcomes of the accreditation agency?

X	1. Yes
	2. No
	3. Don't know

**Q1.4.** Have you used the *Degree Qualification Profile (DQP)*\* to develop your PLO(s)?

	1. Yes
X	2. No, but I know what DQP is.
	3. No. I don't know what DQP is.
	4. Don't know

\* **Degree Qualifications Profile (DQP)** – a framework funded by the Lumina Foundation that describes the kinds of learning and levels of performance that may be expected of students who have earned an associate, baccalaureate, or master's degree. Please see the links for more details:

[http://www.luminafoundation.org/publications/The\\_Degree\\_Qualifications\\_Profile.pdf](http://www.luminafoundation.org/publications/The_Degree_Qualifications_Profile.pdf) and  
<http://www.learningoutcomeassessment.org/DQPNNew.html>.

## **Question 2 (Q2): Standards of Performance/Expectations for EACH PLO.**

**Q2.1.** Has the program developed/adopted **EXPLICIT** standards of performance/expectations for the PLO(s) you assessed in **2013-2014 Academic Year**? (For example: We expect 70% of our students to achieve at least a score of 3 on the Written Communication VALUE rubric.)

	1. Yes, we have developed standards/expectations for <b>ALL</b> PLOs assessed in 2013-14.
	2. Yes, we have developed standards/expectations for <b>SOME</b> PLOs assessed in 2013-14.
X	3. No <b>(If no, go to Q2.2) No EXPLICIT % achievement, but individual expectations</b>
	4. Don't know <b>(Go to Q2.2)</b>
	5. Not Applicable <b>(Go to Q2.2)</b>

**Q2.1.1.** If yes, what are the desired levels of learning, including the criteria and standards of performance/expectations, especially at or near graduation, for **EACH PLO** assessed in 2013-2014 Academic Year? (For example: what will tell you if students have achieved your expected level of performance for the learning outcome.) **Please provide the rubric and/or the expectations that you have developed for EACH PLO one at a time below.** [WORD LIMIT: 300 WORDS FOR EACH PLO]

**Q2.2.** Have you published the PLO(s)/expectations/rubric(s) you assessed in 2013-2014?

X	1. Yes
	2. No <b>(If no, go to Q3.1)</b>

**Q2.2.1.** If yes, where were the **PLOs/expectations/rubrics** published? [**CHECK ALL THAT APPLY**]

X	1. In <b>SOME course syllabi/assignments</b> in the program that claim to introduce/develop/master the PLO(s)
	2. In <b>ALL course syllabi/assignments</b> in the program that claim to introduce /develop/master the PLO(s)
	3. In the student handbook/advising handbook
	4. In the university catalogue
	5. On the academic unit website or in the newsletters
X	6. In the assessment or program review reports/plans/resources/activities
	7. In the new course proposal forms in the department/college/university
	8. In the department/college/university's strategic plans and other planning documents
	9. In the department/college/university's budget plans and other resource allocation documents
	10. In other places, specify:

### Question 3 (Q3): Data, Results, and Conclusions for EACH PLO

**Q3.1.** Was assessment data/evidence **collected** for 2013-2014?

X	1. Yes
	2. No ( <b>If no, go to Part 3: Additional Information</b> )
	3. Don't know ( <b>Go to Part 3</b> )
	4. Not Applicable ( <b>Go to Part 3</b> )

**Q3.2.** If yes, was the data **scored/evaluated** for 2013-2014?

X	1. Yes
	2. No ( <b>If no, go to Part 3: Additional Information</b> )
	3. Don't know ( <b>Go to Part 3</b> )
	4. Not Applicable ( <b>Go to Part 3</b> )

**Q3.3.** If yes, what **DATA** have you collected? What are the **results, findings, and CONCLUSION(s)** for EACH PLO assessed in 2013-2014? In what areas are students doing well and achieving the expectations? In what areas do students need improvement? Please provide a simple and clear summary of the key data and findings, including **tables and graphs** if applicable for EACH PLO one at a time. [WORD LIMIT: 600 WORDS FOR EACH PLO]

10 students were enrolled in SSCI 193 in the Spring Semester. All 10 of these students successfully passed the course (with a grade of C- or higher). Faculty present at the presentations were asked to score each student on the 5 sub-areas that are included in the Integrative Learning VALUE Rubric. The Mean scores in each of those categories are presented in the following table:

Sub-area	Mean Score
Connections to Experience	2.80
Connections to Discipline	3.00
Transfer	2.60
Integrated Communication	3.40

Reflection and Self-Assessment	3.00
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**Q3.4.** Do students meet the expectations/standards of performance as determined by the program and achieved the learning outcomes? [PLEASE MAKE SURE THE PLO YOU SPECIFY HERE IS THE SAME ONE YOU CHECKED/SPECIFIED IN Q1.1].

**Q3.4.1.** First PLO: [ Written Communication ]

	1. Exceed expectation/standard
	2. Meet expectation/standard
	3. Do not meet expectation/standard
X	4. No <b>EXPLICIT</b> expectation/standard set
	5. Don't know

**Q3.4.2.** Second PLO: [ Inquiry and Analysis ]

	1. Exceed expectation/standard
	2. Meet expectation/standard
	3. Do not meet expectation/standard
X	4. No <b>EXPLICIT</b> expectation/standard set
	5. Don't know

#### **Question 4 (Q4): Evaluation of Data Quality: Reliability and Validity.**

**Q4.1.** How many PLOs **in total** did your program **assess in the 2013-2014 academic year**? [ 2 ]

**Q4.2.** Please choose **ONE ASSESSED PLO** as an example to illustrate how you use direct, indirect, and/or other methods/measures to collect data. If you only assessed one PLO **in 2013-14**, YOU CAN SKIP this question. If you assessed MORE THAN ONE PLO, please check **ONLY ONE PLO BELOW EVEN IF YOU ASSESSED MORE THAN ONE PLO IN 2013-2014**.

	1. Critical thinking (WASC 1) <sup>1</sup>
	2. Information literacy (WASC 2)
X	3. Written communication (WASC 3)
	4. Oral communication (WASC 4)
	5. Quantitative literacy (WASC 5)
	6. Inquiry and analysis
	7. Creative thinking
	8. Reading
	9. Team work
	10. Problem solving
	11. Civic knowledge and engagement – local and global
	12. Intercultural knowledge and competency
	13. Ethical reasoning
	14. Foundations and skills for lifelong learning
	15. Global learning
	16. Integrative and applied learning
	17. Overall competencies for GE Knowledge
	18. Overall competencies in the major/discipline
	19. Other PLO. Specify:

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**Direct Measures**

**Q4.3.** Were direct measures used to assess this PLO?

X	1. Yes
	2. No ( <b>If no, go to Q4.4</b> )
	3. Don't know ( <b>Go to Q4.4</b> )

**Q4.3.1.** Which of the following DIRECT measures were used? [**Check all that apply**]

X	1. Capstone projects (including theses, senior theses), courses, or experiences
	2. Key assignments from other CORE classes
	3. Key assignments from other classes
	4. Classroom based performance assessments such as simulations, comprehensive exams, critiques
	5. External performance assessments such as internships or other community based projects
	6. E-Portfolios
	7. Other portfolios
	8. Other measure. Specify:

**Q4.3.2.** Please provide the direct measure(s) [**key assignment(s)/project(s)/portfolio(s)**] that you used to collect the data. [WORD LIMIT: 300 WORDS]

Students in this class are required to create a portfolio including, among other items, several examples of previously graded written work from their various coursework in the Social Science Program accompanied by “reflection essays.” In these essays, they must demonstrate their strengths and weaknesses, discuss pedagogy, and align their coursework to the California Framework as they pertain to teaching in the public, social science, high school classroom. These portfolios and the accompanying presentations are evaluated by the faculty member teaching the course, the Director of the Program, and other faculty in the disciplines.

**Q4.3.2.1.** Was the direct measure(s) [**key assignment(s)/project(s)/portfolio(s)**] aligned directly with the rubric/criterion?

X	1. Yes
	2. No
	3. Don't know

**Q4.3.3.** Was the direct measure (s) [**key assignment(s)/project(s)/portfolio(s)**] aligned directly with the PLO?

X	1. Yes
	2. No
	3. Don't know

**Q4.3.4.** How was the evidence scored/evaluated? [**Select one only**]

	1. No rubric is used to interpret the evidence (If checked, go to Q4.3.7)
	2. Use rubric developed/modified by the faculty who teaches the class

	3. Use rubric developed/modified by a group of faculty
	4. Use rubric pilot-tested and refined by a group of faculty
X	5. Use other means. Specify: Adopted VALUE Rubric directly

**Q4.3.5.** What rubric/criterion was adopted to score/evaluate the above key assignments/projects/portfolio? **[Select one only]**

X	1. The VALUE rubric(s)
	2. Modified VALUE rubric(s)
	3. A rubric that is totally developed by local faculty
	4. Use other means. Specify:

**Q4.3.6.** Was the rubric/criterion aligned directly with the PLO?

X	1. Yes
	2. No
	3. Don't know

**Q4.3.7.** Were the evaluators (e.g., faculty or advising board members) who reviewed student work calibrated to apply assessment criteria in the same way?

	1. Yes
X	2. No
	3. Don't know

**Q4.3.8.** Were there checks for inter-rater reliability?

	1. Yes
X	2. No
	3. Don't know

**Q4.3.9.** Were the sample sizes for the direct measure adequate?

X	1. Yes
	2. No
	3. Don't know

**Q4.3.10.** How did you select the sample of student work (papers, projects, portfolios, etc)? Please briefly specify here:

We evaluate 100% of the students taking SSCI 193.

#### ***Indirect Measures***

**Q4.4.** Were indirect measures used to assess the PLO?

	1. Yes
X	2. No (If no, go to Q4.5)

**Q4.4.1.** Which of the following indirect measures were used?

	1. National student surveys (e.g., NSSE, etc.)
	2. University conducted student surveys (OIR surveys)
	3. College/Department/program conducted student surveys
	4. Alumni surveys, focus groups, or interviews
	5. Employer surveys, focus groups, or interviews

	6. Advisory board surveys, focus groups, or interviews
	7. Others, specify:

**Q4.4.2.** If surveys were used, were the sample sizes adequate?

	1. Yes
	2. No
	3. Don't know

**Q4.4.3.** If surveys were used, please briefly specify how you select your sample? What is the response rate?

### ***Other Measures***

**Q4.5.** Were external benchmarking data used to assess the PLO?

	1. Yes
X	2. No ( <b>If no, go to Q4.6</b> )

**Q4.5.1.** Which of the following measures was used?

	1. National disciplinary exams or state/professional licensure exams
	2. General knowledge and skills measures (e.g., CLA, CAAP, ETS PP, etc)
	3. Other standardized knowledge and skill exams (e.g., ETS, GRE, etc)
	4. Others, specify:

**Q4.6.** Were other measures used to assess the PLO?

	1. Yes
X	2. No ( <b>Go to Q4.7</b> )
	3. Don't know ( <b>Go to Q4.7</b> )

**Q4.6.1.** If yes, please specify: [\_\_\_\_\_]

### **Alignment and Quality**

**Q4.7.** Please describe how you collected the data? For example, in what course(s) (or by what means) were data collected? How reliable and valid is the data? [WORD LIMIT: 300 WORDS]

Students in this class are required to create a portfolio including, among other items, several examples of previously graded written work from their various coursework in the Social Science Program accompanied by “reflection essays.” In these essays, they must demonstrate their strengths and weaknesses, discuss pedagogy, and align their coursework to the California Framework as they pertain to teaching in the public, social science, high school classroom. These portfolios and the accompanying presentations are evaluated by the faculty member teaching the course, the Director of the Program, and other faculty in the disciplines.

The outcome was assessed by including the “Integrative Learning VALUE Rubric” developed by the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AACU) in our Portfolio Rubric – as we have done for the past 4 years now. That Rubric is available on the AACU.org website.



**Q4.8.** How many assessment tools/methods/measures **in total** did you use to assess this PLO? [  2  ]  
**NOTE: IF IT IS ONLY ONE, GO TO Q5.1.**

**Q4.8.1.** Did the data (including all the assignments/projects/portfolios) from all the different assessment tools/measures/methods directly align with the PLO?

X	1. Yes
	2. No
	3. Don't know

**Q4.8.2.** Were **ALL** the assessment tools/measures/methods that were used good measures for the PLO?

X	1. Yes
	2. No
	3. Don't know

### **Question 5 (Q5): Use of Assessment Data.**

**Q5.1.** To what extent have the assessment results **from 2012-2013** been used for? [**CHECK ALL THAT APPLY**]

	<b>Very Much (1)</b>	<b>Quite a Bit (2)</b>	<b>Some (3)</b>	<b>Not at all (4)</b>	<b>Not Applicable (9)</b>
1. Improving specific courses		X			
2. Modifying curriculum			X		
3. Improving advising and mentoring				X	
4. Revising learning outcomes/goals				X	
5. Revising rubrics and/or expectations				X	
6. Developing/updating assessment plan			X		
7. Annual assessment reports		X			
8. Program review			X		
9. Prospective student and family information				X	
10. Alumni communication				X	
11. WASC accreditation (regional accreditation)					X
12. Program accreditation					X
13. External accountability reporting requirement					X
14. Trustee/Governing Board deliberations					X
15. Strategic planning		X			
16. Institutional benchmarking					X
17. Academic policy development or modification		X			
18. Institutional Improvement					X
19. Resource allocation and budgeting		X			
20. New faculty hiring		X			
21. Professional development for faculty and staff			X		
22. Other Specify:					

**Q5.1.1.** Please provide one or two best examples to show how you have used the assessment data above.

The Director is currently working with the instructor of record in the SSCI 193 course to develop projects that demonstrate a more complex approach to problem solving. Students are getting better at being able to see themselves as Social Scientists and not merely students who have taken a collection of courses in various disciplines. The next step in the evolution of the program is to have them work on solving problems from the perspective of a Social Scientist.

Subsequent analysis of their Rubric scores will help discern to what extent we are successful with this endeavor.

**Q5.2.** As a result of the **assessment effort in 2013-2014** and based on the prior feedbacks from OAPA, do you anticipate making any changes for your program (e.g., course structure, course content, or modification of program learning outcomes)?

X	1. Yes
	2. No ( <b>If no, go to Q5.3</b> )
	3. Don't know ( <b>Go to Q5.3</b> )

**Q5.2.1.** What changes are anticipated? By what mechanism will the changes be implemented? How and when will you assess the impact of proposed modifications? [WORD LIMIT: 300 WORDS]

The Director is currently working with the instructor of record in the SSCI 193 course to develop projects that demonstrate a more complex approach to problem solving. Students are getting better at being able to see themselves as Social Scientists and not merely students who have taken a collection of courses in various disciplines. The next step in the evolution of the program is to have them work on solving problems from the perspective of a Social Scientist.

**Q5.2.2.** Is there a follow-up assessment on these areas that need improvement?

	1. Yes
X	2. No
	3. Don't know

**Q5.3.** Many academic units have collected assessment data on aspects of a program that are not related to program learning outcomes (i.e., impacts of an advising center, etc.). If your program/academic unit has collected assessment data in this way, please briefly report your results here. [WORD LIMIT: 300 WORDS]

**Question 6 (Q6).** Which program learning outcome(s) do you plan to assess next year?

	1. Critical thinking (WASC 1) <sup>1</sup>
	2. Information literacy (WASC 2)
	3. Written communication (WASC 3)
X	4. Oral communication (WASC 4)
	5. Quantitative literacy (WASC 5)
	6. Inquiry and analysis
	7. Creative thinking
	8. Reading
	9. Team work
	10. Problem solving
	11. Civic knowledge and engagement – local and global

	12. Intercultural knowledge and competency
	13. Ethical reasoning
	14. Foundations and skills for lifelong learning
	15. Global learning
X	16. Integrative and applied learning
	17. Overall competencies for GE Knowledge
	18. Overall competencies in the major/discipline
	19. Others. Specify any PLOs that the program is going to <b>assess but not included above:</b> a. b. c.

### Part 3: Additional Information

**A1.** In which academic year did you **develop** the current assessment plan?

X	1. Before 2007-2008
	2. 2007-2008
	3. 2008-2009
	4. 2009-2010
	5. 2010-2011
	6. 2011-2012
	7. 2012-2013
	8. 2013-2014
	9. Have not yet <b>developed</b> a formal assessment plan

**A2.** In which academic year did you last **update** your assessment plan?

	1. Before 2007-2008
	2. 2007-2008
	3. 2008-2009
	4. 2009-2010
	5. 2010-2011
	6. 2011-2012
X	7. 2012-2013
	8. 2013-2014
	9. Have not yet <b>updated</b> the assessment plan

**A3.** Have you developed a curriculum map for this program?

X	1. Yes
	2. No
	3. Don't know

**A4.** Has the program indicated explicitly where the assessment **of student learning** occurs in the curriculum?

X	1. Yes
	2. No
	3. Don't know

**A5.** Does the program have any capstone class?

X	1. Yes
	2. No
	3. Don't know

**A5.1.** If yes, please list the course number for each capstone class: [\_\_193\_\_\_\_]

**A6.** Does the program have **ANY** capstone project?

X	1. Yes
	2. No
	3. Don't know

A7. Name of the academic unit: [\_Social Science\_\_BA \_\_\_\_]

A8. Department in which the academic unit is located: [\_Social Science\_\_ \_\_\_\_]

A9. Department Chair's Name: [\_David M. Lang\_\_\_\_]

A10. Total number of annual assessment reports submitted by your academic unit for 2013-2014: [\_1\_\_]

A11. College in which the academic unit is located:

	1. Arts and Letters
	2. Business Administration
	3. Education
	4. Engineering and Computer Science
	5. Health and Human Services
	6. Natural Science and Mathematics
X	7. Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies
	8. Continuing Education (CCE)
	9. Other, specify:

***Undergraduate Degree Program(s):***

A12. Number of undergraduate degree programs the academic unit has: [\_1\_\_]

A12.1. List all the name(s): [\_BA\_Social Science\_\_]

A12.2. How many concentrations appear on the diploma for this undergraduate program? [\_0\_\_]

***Master Degree Program(s):***

A13. Number of Master's degree programs the academic unit has: [\_0\_\_]

A13.1. List all the name(s): [\_\_\_\_\_]

A13.2. How many concentrations appear on the diploma for this master program? [\_0\_\_]

***Credential Program(s):***

A14. Number of credential degree programs the academic unit has: [\_0\_\_]

A14.1. List all the names: [\_\_\_\_\_]

***Doctorate Program(s)***

A15. Number of doctorate degree programs the academic unit has: [\_0\_\_]

A15.1. List the name(s): [\_\_\_\_\_]

A16. Would this assessment report apply to other program(s) and/or diploma concentration(s) in your academic unit\*?

	1. Yes
X	2. No

\*If the assessment conducted for this program (including the PLO(s), the criteria and standards of performance/expectations you established, the data you collected and analyzed, the conclusions of the assessment) is the same as the assessment conducted for other programs within the academic unit, you only need to submit one assessment report.

16.1. If yes, please specify the name of each program: \_\_\_\_\_

16.2. If yes, please specify the name of each diploma concentration: \_\_\_\_\_