

Developing Curriculum Maps

Loma Linda University • Office of Assessment and Institutional Learning

Curriculum maps give programs:

- A mechanism to organize their curriculum in a logical and reasonable manner to support their outcomes.
- The opportunity to rethink what they do and how they do it.
- A process in which to focus on the goal of implementing the Loma Linda University SLOs as well as the program outcomes. Without this process, programs are at risk of drifting away from LLU's core mission.

Four basic steps on how to prepare a curriculum map in a table:

1. List the program's course numbers across the top of the table.
2. List the eight institutional SLOs and the 5-7 programmatic outcomes on the vertical axis of the table.
3. Review each course to determine what *intentional* educational strategy supports or helps students to achieve a specific outcome, and then
4. Identify to what extent the course addresses the outcome and note it on the map.

Repeat the last two steps for each course and outcome.

LLU Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

- Not all of the institutional SLOs may be included in each course.
- The university will assess the SLOs across campus in a five-year cycle
- After the data is collected, the Office of Assessment and Institutional Learning will return it to each of the schools.
- Enter an asterisk wherever an institutional SLO is *not* addressed in a course. Then include a footnote explaining that the university will assess outcomes with the asterisk.

Outcome Implementation in Courses

- Determine the extent that each outcome is implemented in every course.
- Choose a scale that is most appropriate for your program. Here is one sample scale:
 - I = Introduced
 - E = Expanded
 - A = Advanced
- Enter an I, E, or A in a cell whenever a course addresses an outcome at one of these levels.

Course without an Outcome

- Each program outcome must be addressed in at least one course.
- If a course does not have an outcome, evaluate it carefully. Then take one of these indicated actions:
 - Redesign the course to include at least one outcome, or
 - Develop a new outcome that is necessary and is addressed in the course, or
 - Evaluate the course further to see if it should be eliminated.

Outcome without a Course

- Evaluate the outcome carefully, then take one of these appropriate actions:
 - Add the outcome to an appropriate current course, or
 - Develop a new course to address the orphan outcome, or
 - Re-examine the outcome to see if it should be revised or eliminated.

Conclusion

Going through this evaluation process will provide an accurate program curriculum map that will give a comprehensive overview of where and to what extent the program's courses implement the eight institutional SLOs and the 5-7 program outcomes.

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