

## **Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs): General Information – Fall 2018**

### **What are SLOs (Student Learning Outcomes)?**

Student learning outcomes “represent the broad skills and knowledge that students are expected to attain as a result of engaging in specific educational experiences” (Berkley City College).

Student learning outcomes have been developed for all *courses* and *programs* at FLC. Course and program SLOs are reviewed at least once every six years as part of the curriculum review process.

Course and program SLOs can be found in Socrates. The SLOs for a course or program are included in the course or program description.

### **All course and program SLOs must be assessed at least once every six years.**

*Why?* Each year FLC must submit to the accrediting commission (ACCJC) an Annual Report that states the percentage of college courses and programs (as listed in the catalog) for which there is *ongoing* assessment of learning outcomes. If ongoing assessment is not taking place (defined by FLC as, at least once every six years), then the college is out of compliance with ACCJC standards.

### **It is up to the instructor to decide how to assess course SLOs and up to the department to determine how to assess program SLOs.**

*Resources to help with program SLO assessment:*

- **Graduate Exit Survey:** As of Spring 2016, all students that petition to graduate are emailed an exit survey. The exit survey asks students to evaluate how well FLC prepared them to achieve the PSLOs in the main program the student completed. Summary reports will be available during the fall term for any program that had at least 5 responses. Data from the graduate exit survey can be used to evaluate a programs pSLOs.
- **Improve reports:** If a department has mapped their course SLOs to their program SLOs, a report can be generated in Improve that shows all course SLO assessment results that align with each PSLO. This report can then be used to evaluate program SLOs.

### **Course and program SLO assessments should be “authentic.”**

*Why?* ACCJC requires “authentic” assessment of SLOs. Authentic assessment is defined as, “a form of assessment in which students are asked to perform real-world tasks that demonstrate meaningful application of essential knowledge and skills.”

### **All course and program SLO results should be entered into the Improve platform.**

*Why?* FLC needs a central repository of assessments to determine what has been assessed and to demonstrate to the accreditation review team that assessments are occurring. *Instructions on how to submit SLO assessments through Improve are available on the SLO page of the Insider (the SLO page is found at the bottom of the Instructional Support section).*

### **Departments should provide a summary of key findings from all assessments completed during the previous academic year (or since the last PR if completing a PR) in the ADP.**

If you have questions about SLOs please contact the SLO coordinator: Christina Aldrich [aldricc@flc.losrios.edu](mailto:aldricc@flc.losrios.edu)



In the ADP/PR departments should refrain from listing the results of individual assessments and focus on summarizing the themes or patterns across the assessments. The findings should then be used (to the extent possible) to guide resource requests (e.g., equipment) and changes (e.g., curriculum) within the department.

**Faculty are encouraged to review course and program SLOs and revise SLOs as needed.**

When revising or developing SLOs focus on developing a handful of outcomes that assess higher level skills that demonstrate knowledge/skill gained across the whole course (or program).

When revising SLOs faculty should consider whether the revisions would impact CID course approval, transfer degree approval, or specific CTE requirements.

*\*\*Please note that curriculum changes (e.g., course/program additions/deletions, SLO changes, course name changes) made in Socrates are not automatically updated in Improve. The changes have to be manually entered and will be made in the Improve platform at the start of the Fall and Spring semesters.*