

RIT's General Education Student Learning Outcomes (GE SLO)

Proposed Change to Assessment Schedule

Background: RIT's current assessment plan follows a prescribed schedule in which each of the sixteen GE SLOs are assessed once in a three year time period (an average of five outcomes are assessed annually). The schedule is staggered but is not organized by theme or discipline, with the exception of the math and science outcomes, which are coupled together. The current schedule provides RIT with updated assessment results and a window of two years to make changes before the outcome is reassessed.

Proposed Change and Rationale: It is recommended that RIT modify its GE SLO assessment schedule to assess outcomes in a more intentional manner by grouping them into themes. The proposed grouping could follow either of the following options:

Option 1	Option 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 1: Communication GE SLOs (n=4)• Year 2: Critical Thinking GE SLOs (n=4)• Year 3: Science/Math GE SLOs (n=4)• Year 4: Global/Social/Artistic/Ethical GE SLOs (n=4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 1: Communication GE SLOs (n=4)• Year 2: Critical Thinking GE SLOs (n=4)• Year 3: Science/Global/Social GE SLOs (n=4)• Year 4: Math/Artistic/Ethical GE SLOs (n=4)

In this pattern, each outcome group would be assessed once over a four-year time period. The proposed change provides RIT with several anticipated advantages. First and foremost, the proposed change would improve faculty engagement in the assessment process by; 1) allowing for a more focused approach by outcome theme; 2) decreasing confusion and what could be referred to as assessment "fatigue"; and 3) making it easier to share findings and develop cohesive action plans. Results and recommendations could be grouped together by theme and improvement strategies reviewed collectively. Using a logical grouping of the GE SLOs by theme also has the potential to increase the power of results through an increased level of stakeholder interest.

The change would require that RIT move to a four-year schedule to accommodate the new schedule, meaning that at times, assessment results would be dated three years prior. The anticipated benefits and challenges of the proposed change are summarized in the table below.

Benefits	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessment schedule will be easier to follow• Assessment results have the potential to be more actionable when combined together• Easier to share results collectively by theme-will be more powerful when shared together• Easier to develop action plans to address multiple outcomes• The schedule is less rigorous, requiring assessment of four outcomes annually. This schedule has the potential to decrease faculty fatigue and increase intentionality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Longer time period between assessment (3 years v. 4 years)• Trend data will be more spread out and assessment findings will at times be less current

Current

**General Education Student Learning Outcomes
Assessment Schedule 2016-2022**

Framework	General Education Student Learning Outcome	2016.17 Assessment		2017.18 Assessment		2018.19 Assessment		2019.2020 Assessment		2020.21 Assessment		2021.22 Assessment	
		Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
Communication	Express oneself effectively in common college-level written forms using standard American English												X
	Revise and improve written products		X								X		
	Express oneself effectively in presentation, either in spoken standard American English or sign language			X						X			
	Demonstrate comprehension of information and ideas accessed through reading				X						X		
Critical Thinking	Use relevant evidence gathered through accepted scholarly methods and properly acknowledge sources of information				X						X		
	Analyze or construct arguments considering their premises, assumptions, contexts, and conclusions, and anticipating counterarguments							X					
	Reach sound conclusions based on logical analysis of evidence						X					X	
	Demonstrate creative or innovative approaches to assignments or projects												X
Ethical	Identify contemporary ethical questions and relevant positions								X				
	Interpret and evaluate artistic expression considering the cultural context in which it was created	X											
Artistic	Examine connections among the world's populations	X								X			
	Analyze similarities and differences in human social experiences and evaluate the consequences												
Global	Apply methods of scientific inquiry and problem solving to contemporary issues and scientific questions		X									X	
	Demonstrate knowledge of basic principles and concepts of one of the natural sciences		X										
Social	Comprehend and evaluate mathematical or statistical information												
	Perform college-level mathematical operations or apply statistical techniques			X							X		
Natural Inquiry of Science	Perform college-level mathematical operations or apply statistical techniques			X									
	Apply statistical techniques												
Scientific Principles	Comprehend and evaluate mathematical or statistical information												
	Perform college-level mathematical operations or apply statistical techniques			X									
Mathematical	Comprehend and evaluate mathematical or statistical information												
	Perform college-level mathematical operations or apply statistical techniques			X									
Mathematical	Comprehend and evaluate mathematical or statistical information												
	Perform college-level mathematical operations or apply statistical techniques			X									

follow themes U1 > U4 > convert to 4 yrs (instead of 5) NEW



**General Education Student Learning Outcomes
Proposed Assessment Schedule 2020-2026**

Framework	General Education Student Learning Outcome	2020.21 Assessment		2021.22 Assessment		2022.23 Assessment		2023.24 Assessment		2024.25 Assessment		2025.26 Assessment	
		Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
Communication	Express oneself effectively in common college-level written forms using standard American English	X								X			
	Revise and improve written products		X								X		
	Express oneself effectively in presentation, either in spoken standard American English or sign language	X								X			
	Demonstrate comprehension of information and ideas accessed through reading		X								X		
Critical Thinking	Use relevant evidence gathered through accepted scholarly methods and properly acknowledge sources of information			X								X	
	Analyze or construct arguments considering their premises, assumptions, contexts, and conclusions, and anticipating counterarguments				X								X
	Reach sound conclusions based on logical analysis of evidence			X								X	
	Demonstrate creative or innovative approaches to assignments or projects				X								X
Social	Analyze similarities and differences in human social experiences and evaluate the consequences					X							
Global	Examine connections among the world's populations					X							
Ethical	Identify contemporary ethical questions and relevant positions							X					
Artistic	Interpret and evaluate artistic expression considering the cultural context in which it was created							X					
Scientific Principles	Demonstrate knowledge of basic principles and concepts of one of the natural sciences								X				
Natural Inquiry of Science	Apply methods of scientific inquiry and problem solving to contemporary issues and scientific questions								X				
Mathematical	Comprehend and evaluate mathematical or statistical information										X		
Mathematical	Perform college-level mathematical operations or apply statistical techniques											X	