

Measuring Outcomes

There are multiple ways to measure student learning.

The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), LCC's institutional accreditor, considers direct assessment of outcomes more rigorous than indirect assessment. Direct assessment is typically done by faculty subject matter experts.

Examples of direct methods of assessment:

- Rubrics
- Standardized tests and exams
- Pre- and post-test design
- Competency-based demonstration of outcomes
- Portfolios

Examples of indirect methods of assessment:

- Student self-evaluation or reflection
- Peer assessment
- Surveys
- Course grades

Considerations for measuring student learning.

Answering "no" to any of the questions below may indicate that it's time to rethink your outcomes.

- Are my outcomes meaningful?
- Are my outcomes measurable?
- Are my outcomes manageable?

If you need help with your outcomes, contact your dean, Instructional Assessment Committee representative, or Effectiveness and College Relations for assistance.

Useful Links:

- [A Simple DIY Approach to Tracking and Improving Student Learning Outcomes \(campustechnology.com/articles/2015/05/20/a-simple-diy-approach-to-tracking-and-improving-student-learning-outcomes.aspx\)](http://campustechnology.com/articles/2015/05/20/a-simple-diy-approach-to-tracking-and-improving-student-learning-outcomes.aspx)
- [Direct Versus Indirect Assessment of Student Learning \(www.niu.edu/citl/resources/guides/direct-versus-indirect-assessment-of-student-learning.shtml#:~:text=Indirect%20Assessment%20refers%20to%20any,of%20learning%20is%20less%20clear.\)](http://www.niu.edu/citl/resources/guides/direct-versus-indirect-assessment-of-student-learning.shtml#:~:text=Indirect%20Assessment%20refers%20to%20any,of%20learning%20is%20less%20clear.)
- [Measuring Student Learning \(teaching.cornell.edu/teaching-resources/assessment-evaluation/measuring-student-learning\)](http://teaching.cornell.edu/teaching-resources/assessment-evaluation/measuring-student-learning)