

Cornell College
Departmental / Program Assessment Plan
Assessment Project Outline

Department / Program:	chemistry
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Date:	Spring 2012

Outcome(s) Being Assessed:

Goal #2: Improve their quantitative and qualitative thinking skills

Outcome #2: Quantitatively assess or describe a chemical system

Assessment Question(s):

Given the outcome(s) being assessed, what do we want to find out? What information will be useful to us?

We want to know if a significant number of students are able to use either quantitative or qualitative descriptors to correctly explain a chemical system.

We also want to know if their level of sophistication increases as they progress through the curriculum.

Intended Uses of the Assessment:

How will the results of the assessment be used? How can we ensure the information will be useful to us?

We will use this information to help direct curriculum decisions

Gathering and Analyzing Evidence:

What is the best way to get the information we need? What evidence already exists? From whom do we need to collect information? Use the grid below – or one of your own making – to outline your plan for collecting and analyzing evidence.

Method to Collect Evidence	Method to Analyze Evidence	Assessment Question Addressed	Timeline
use assessment questions on exams in CHE122 and CHE328	qualitative rubric	change in ability to describe chemical bonding	1 year

Method to Collect Evidence: brief description of what will be collected, how, by whom.

Method to Analyze Evidence: brief description of how evidence will be analyzed, by whom.

Assessment Question Addressed: specify which outcome / question is being addressed.

Timeline: when will data be collected and analyzed.

Interpreting Evidence:

What strategy will we use to make meaning of the results? How will we ensure we use the information? Our plan for interpreting the results and using them to inform our practice is:

Collected evidence will be reviewed using a rubric by 1 or 2 faculty members (preferably those in the department) and general trends summarized. The summary will be distributed to the entire department and used as the basis for discussions on curriculum development.

Involvement:

Who will be involved in this assessment project? What role will each of us play?

2 faculty members for the detailed analysis
All faculty members to review and comment on the results.