

Evaluating General Education: Using a “Home Grown” Student Performance Assessment

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Abilities and Levels

Following are brief descriptions of the Abilities and Levels being assessed in the Mid-Program General Education Assessment.

Communication-Quantitative Literacy Level 2: Interprets math models such as formulas, graphs, and tables and draws reasonable inferences from them; constructs graphs and applies concepts of measurement systems and conversions.

Analysis Level 3: Uses disciplinary concepts and frameworks with growing understanding; perceives and makes relationships.

Problem Solving Level 3: Takes thoughtful responsibility for process and proposed solutions to problems; performs all phases or steps within a disciplinary problem solving process, including evaluation and real or simulated implementation.

To be successful in this assessment, students are expected to demonstrate all of these abilities.

This assessment also provides the opportunity to receive a validation in Communication: Quantitative Literacy, Level 3.

Communication-Quantitative Literacy Level 3: Thinks critically about her own and others' use of quantitative information and language; shows awareness of the assumptions behind quantitative information; shows awareness of the use/misuse of quantitative information.

Outcomes and Criteria

Simply put, outcomes are statements that indicate what we expect students to be able to do with what they have learned. In the assessment students have the opportunity to demonstrate what they have learned in prior courses and other experiences as they integrate and transfer their learning in this assessment. The specific assessment outcomes and criteria follow.

Outcome #1: Accurately interpret and create representations of quantitative data.

Criterion 1: Correctly illustrate data using a spreadsheet.

Criterion 2: Accurately solve quantitative problems involving arithmetic, percentages, ratios, and descriptive statistics.

Criterion 3: Accurately interpret quantitative information, including how data are related to each other.

- Outcome #2:** Critically evaluate data and make meaningful relationships among multiple sources of information about scientific questions.
Criterion 4: Create a researchable question and relevant hypothesis.
- Outcome #3:** Effectively evaluate a data-driven problem-solving process.
Criterion 5: Use basic quantitative abilities to accurately interpret quantitative information, evaluate arguments, and make reasonable conclusions.
Criterion 6: Make reasonable inferences about how representations of data affect your thinking.
- Outcome #4:** Clearly articulate connections between present performance and ongoing development of own abilities.
Criterion 7: Logically evaluate own analytic, quantitative, and problem solving abilities and create purposeful goals for ongoing development.

Excerpt from the Assessment Record
AC 309 Mid-Program General Education Assessment

Student:

Date of Assessment:

Assessor:

Outcome #1: Accurately interpret and create representations of quantitative data. **Met**__ **Not Met**__

Criterion	Ability	Evidence	Met	Partially Met	Not Met	Comments What was distinctive? How was criterion not met?
1. Correctly illustrate data using a spreadsheet	Quant Lit Level 2 & Analysis Level 3	Part 1, Qst. 9				
		Part 2, Qst. 7				