

Western University of Health Sciences Academic Program Review: Standards

Overview: The WesternU Standards for Academic Program Review provide guidelines for academic programs to reflect on and improve their quality and effectiveness. On the whole, the eight standards reflect WesternU's commitment to providing a superior educational experience.

Standard 1. Mission, History and Goals of the Program

1.1 – The program's purpose is consistent with the mission and vision of the University and appropriate to their field.

Guideline: Discuss the purpose of the program. Provide a brief history of the program (date of establishment, number of graduates to date, significant milestones achieved, etc.). Include a statement of the connection of the degree program mission to Western University's Mission statement and its consistency with expectations in the field.

1.2 – The program defines mission fulfillment and plans are in place to achieve and measure related outcomes.

Related Documentation: Program's Catalog

Standard 2. Student Learning Outcomes

2.1 – The program has a set of program learning outcomes that align with the University's

years' graduates, employment rates, employer evaluations, etc.) shall be provided as an appendix to the report.

2.2. – Student learning outcomes are regularly reviewed to evaluate the degree to which program learning goals are being met. Assessment results are systematically shared within the program and used to guide curricular decisions.

Guideline: As part of the review process, the unit should select at least two outcomes to examine in a rigorous fashion, develop an appropriate assessment measure for each outcome, conduct that assessment, and evaluate the result in terms of any modifications to the curriculum they suggest. While indirect measures may be used to assess each outcome, for each outcome at least one direct measure of student achievement must be used (i.e., direct measures are those which are derived from actual student performance of the expected outcome in contrast to surveys that ask student opinions or employer satisfaction with the graduate). Describe how the program/unit uses student outcomes information in program planning

Related Documentation: Curriculum matrix, Sample Syllabi, Annual Assessment Reports

Standard 3. Assess the Curriculum

3.1 – Curriculum content is well organized, appropriate, and includes generally accepted experiences for the degree.

3.2 – The curriculum provides content that is designed to help students achieve the stated outcomes (all stated outcomes) at the program and institutional levels.

3.3 – The program publishes student learning outcomes, at the course, program, and institutional level on all course syllabi.

Guideline: Discuss how the curriculum has been defined to meet the goals of the program and the University. This may include a description of the organization of the curriculum, the core courses, prerequisites, teaching methodologies, "capstone" projects, and other key features. A matrix that identifies what courses provide content and exercises that are designed should be provided. Identify at least 19 the.

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Standard 4. Assess the Faculty

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