

# 2015-2016 Annual Assessment Report Template

Program Name:

**FOR GRADUATE AND CREDENTIAL PROGRAMS: THIS TEMPLATE REFERS TO SAC STATE BACCALAUREATE LEARNING GOALS. PLEASE IGNORE THESE REFERENCES IN YOUR REPORT.**

## Question 1: Program Learning Outcomes

**Q1.1.** Which of the following Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) and Sac State Baccalaureate Learning Goals (BLGs) did you assess in 2015-2016? [Check all that apply]

- 1. Critical thinking
- 2. Information literacy
- 3. Written communication
- 4. Oral communication
- 5. Quantitative literacy
- 6. Inquiry and analysis
- 7. Creative thinking
- 8. Reading
- 9. Team work
- 10. Problem solving
- 11. Civic knowledge and engagement
- 12. Intercultural knowledge and competency
- 13. Ethical reasoning
- 14. Foundations and skills for lifelong learning
- 15. Global learning
- 16. Integrative and applied learning
- 17. Overall competencies for GE Knowledge
- 18. Overall competencies in the major/discipline
- 19. Other, specify any PLOs that were assessed in 2015-2016 but not included above:
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.

**Q1.3.** Are your PLOs closely aligned with the mission of the university?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don't know

**Q1.4.** Is your program externally accredited (other than through WASC)?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No (Go to **Q1.5**)
- 3. Don't know (Go to **Q1.5**)

**Q1.4.1.** If the answer to Q1.4 is yes, are your PLOs closely aligned with the mission/goals/outcomes of the accreditation agency?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don't know

**Q1.5.** Did your program use the [Degree Qualification Profile](#) (DQP) to develop your PLO(s)?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No, but I know what the DQP is
- 3. No, I don't know what the DQP is.
- 4. Don't know

**Q1.6.** Did you use action verbs to make each PLO measurable (See Attachment I)?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don't know

**Q1.2.** Please provide more detailed background information about **EACH PLO** you checked above and other information such as how your specific PLOs were **explicitly** linked to the Sac State BLGs:

**Q1.2.1.** Do you have rubrics for your PLOs?

- 1. Yes, for all PLOs
- 2. Yes, but for some PLOs
- 3. No rubrics for PLOs
- 4. N/A, other (please specify):

## Question 2: Standard of Performance for the selected PLO

**Q 2.1.** Select **ONE(1) PLO** here as an example to illustrate how you've conducted assessment (be sure you *checked the correct box* for this PLO in Q1.1):

- 1. Critical thinking
- 2. Information literacy
- 3. Written communication
- 4. Oral communication
- 5. Quantitative literacy
- 6. Inquiry and analysis
- 7. Creative thinking
- 8. Reading
- 9. Team work
- 10. Problem solving
- 11. Civic knowledge and engagement
- 12. Intercultural knowledge and competency
- 13. Ethical reasoning
- 14. Foundations and skills for lifelong learning
- 15. Global learning
- 16. Integrative and applied learning
- 17. Overall competencies for GE Knowledge
- 18. Overall competencies in the major/discipline
- 19. Other, specify any PLOs that were assessed in 2015-2016 but not included above:
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.

**Q2.1.1.** Please provide more background information about the **specific PLO** you've chosen in Q2.1:

**Q2.2.** Has the program developed or adopted **explicit** standards of performance for this PLO?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don't know
- 4. N/A

**Q2.3. Please provide the rubric(s) and standard of performance that you have developed for this PLO here or in the appendix: [Word limit: 300]**

Please indicate where you have published the PLO, the standard of performance, and the rubric that measures the PLO:	Q2.4	Q2.5	Q2.6
	(1) PLO	(2) Standards of Performance	(3) Rubrics
1. In <b>SOME</b> course syllabi/assignments in the program that address the PLO			
2. In <b>ALL</b> course syllabi/assignments in the program that address the PLO			
3. In the student handbook/advising handbook			
4. In the university catalogue			
5. On the academic unit website or in newsletters			
6. In the assessment or program review reports, plans, resources or activities			
7. In new course proposal forms in the department/college/university			
8. In the department/college/university's strategic plans and other planning documents			
9. In the department/college/university's budget plans and other resource allocation documents			
10. Other, specify:			

### Question 3: Data Collection Methods and Evaluation of Data Quality for the Selected PLO

<p><b>Q3.1.</b> Was assessment data/evidence <b>collected</b> for the selected PLO in 2015-2016?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. No (Skip to <b>Q6</b>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know (Skip to <b>Q6</b>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4. N/A (Skip to <b>Q6</b>)</p>	<p><b>Q3.2.</b> If yes, was the data <b>scored/evaluated</b> for this PLO in 2015-2016?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. No (Skip to <b>Q6</b>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know (Skip to <b>Q6</b>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4. N/A (Skip to <b>Q6</b>)</p>
<p><b>Q3.1.1.</b> How many assessment tools/methods/measures <b>in total</b> did you use to assess this PLO?</p>	<p><b>Q3.2.1</b> Please describe how you collected the assessment data for the selected PLO. For example, in what course(s) or by what means were data collected (see Attachment II)? <b>[Word limit: 300]</b></p>

### Q3A: Direct Measures (key assignments, projects, portfolios)

<p><b>Q3.3.</b> Were direct measures [key assignments, projects, portfolios, course work, student tests, etc.] used to assess this PLO?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. No (Go to <b>Q3.7</b>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know (Go to <b>Q3.7</b>)</p>	<p><b>Q3.3.1.</b> Which of the following direct measures were used? <b>[Check all that apply]</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Capstone projects (including theses, senior theses), courses, or experiences</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. Key assignments from required classes in the program</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Key assignments from elective classes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4. Classroom based performance assessments such as simulations, comprehensive exams, critiques</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 5. External performance assessments such as internships or other community based projects</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 6. E-Portfolios</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 7. Other portfolios</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 8. Other measure. Specify:</p>	
<p><b>Q3.3.2.</b> Please <b>explain</b> and <b>attach</b> the direct measure you used to collect data.</p>	<p><b>Q3.4.</b> How was the data evaluated? <b>[Select only one]</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. <b>No</b> rubric is used to interpret the evidence (Go to <b>Q3.4.4</b>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. Used rubric developed/modified by the faculty who teaches the class</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Used rubric developed/modified by a group of faculty</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4. Used rubric pilot-tested and refined by a group of faculty</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 5. The VALUE rubric(s)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 6. Modified VALUE rubric(s)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 7. Used other means (Answer <b>Q3.4.1</b>)</p>	
<p><b>Q3.4.2.</b> Was the <b>rubric</b> aligned directly and explicitly <b>with the PLO</b>?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4. N/A</p>	<p><b>Q3.4.1.</b> If you used other means, which of the following measures were used? <b>(Check all that apply)</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. National disciplinary exams or state/professional licensure exams</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. General knowledge and skills measures (e.g., CLA, CAAP, ETS PP, etc.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Other standardized knowledge and skill exams (e.g., ETS, GRE, etc.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4. Other, specify:</p>	
<p><b>Q3.4.3.</b> Was the <b>direct measure</b> (e.g. assignment, thesis, etc.) aligned directly and explicitly <b>with the rubric</b>?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4. N/A</p>	<p><b>Q3.4.4.</b> Was the <b>direct measure</b> (e.g. assignment, thesis, etc.) aligned directly and explicitly <b>with the PLO</b>?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4. N/A</p>	<p><b>Q3.5.</b> How many faculty members participated in planning the assessment data collection of the selected PLO?</p>
<p><b>Q3.5.1</b> How many faculty members participated in planning the evaluation of the assessment data for the selected PLO?</p>	<p><b>Q3.5.2.</b> If the data was evaluated by multiple scorers, was there a norming process (a procedure to make sure everyone was scoring similarly)?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know</p>	
<p><b>Q3.6.</b> How did you <b>select</b> the sample of student work [papers, projects, portfolios, etc.]?</p>	<p><b>Q3.6.1.</b> How did you <b>decide</b> how many samples of student work to review?</p>	
<p><b>Q3.6.2.</b> How many students were in the class or program?</p>	<p><b>Q3.6.3.</b> How many samples of student work did you evaluate?</p>	<p><b>Q3.6.4.</b> Was the sample size of student work for the direct measure adequate?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know</p>

**Q3B: Indirect Measures (surveys, focus groups, interviews, etc.)**

**Q3.7.** Were indirect measures used to assess the PLO?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No (Skip to **Q3.8**)
- 3. Don't know

**Q3.7.1.** Which of the following indirect measures were used?

**[Check all that apply]**

- 1. National student surveys (e.g., NSSE)
- 2. University conducted student surveys (e.g. OIR)
- 3. Program student surveys or focus groups
- 4. Alumni surveys, focus groups, or interviews
- 5. Employer surveys, focus groups, or interviews
- 6. Advisory board surveys, focus groups, or interviews
- 7. Other, specify:

**Q3.7.1.1** Please explain and attach the indirect measure you used to collect data:

**Q3.7.2** If surveys were used, how was the sample size decided?

**Q3.7.3.** If surveys were used, briefly specify how you selected your sample.

**Q3.7.4.** If surveys were used, what was the response rate?

**Q3C: Other Measures (external benchmarking, licensing exams, standardized tests, etc.)**

**Q3.8.** Were external benchmarking data such as licensing exams or standardized tests used to assess the PLO?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No (Go to **Q3.8.2**)
- 3. Don't know

**Q3.8.1.** Which of the following measures were used? **(Check all that apply)**

- 1. National disciplinary exams or state/professional licensure exams
- 2. General knowledge and skills measures (e.g., CLA, CAAP, ETS PP, etc.)
- 3. Other standardized knowledge and skill exams (e.g., ETS, GRE, etc.)
- 4. Other, specify:

**Q3.8.2.** Were other measures used to assess the PLO?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No (Go to **Q4.1**)
- 3. Don't know (Go to **Q4.1**)

**Q3.8.3.** If other measures were used, please specify:

**Question 4: Data, Findings and Conclusions**

**Q4.1.** Please provide simple tables and/or graphs to summarize the assessment data, findings, and conclusions: (see Attachment III)  
**[Word limit: 600 for selected PLO]**

**Q4.2.** Are students doing well and meeting program standard? If not, how will the program work to improve student performance of the selected PLO?

**Q4.3.** For **selected** PLO, the student performance:

- 1. **Exceeded** expectation/standard
- 2. **Met** expectation/standard
- 3. **Partially** met expectation/standard
- 4. **Did not meet** expectation/standard
- 5. No expectation or standard has been specified
- 6. Don't know

### ***Q4A: Alignment and Quality***

**Q4.4.** Did the data, including the direct measures, from all the different assessment tools/measures/methods directly align with the PLO?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don't know

**Q4.5.** Were **ALL** the assessment tools/measures/methods that were used good measures for the PLO?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don't know

### **Question 5: Use of Assessment Data (Closing the Loop)**

**Q5.1.** As a result of this year's **assessment effort in 2015-2016** and based on the prior feedback from OAPA, do you anticipate making any changes for your program (e.g., course structure, course content, or modification of PLOs)?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No (Go to **Q5.2**)
- 3. Don't know (Go to **Q5.2**)

**Q5.1.2.** Do you have a plan to assess the impact of the changes that you anticipate making?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Don't know

**Q5.1.1.** Please describe what changes you plan to make in your program as a result of your assessment of this PLO. Include a description of how you plan to assess the impact of these changes. **[Word limit: 300 words]**

**Q5.2.** How have the assessment data from **last year (2014 - 2015)** been used so far? **[Check all that apply]**

	<b>(1)</b> Very Much	<b>(2)</b> Quite a Bit	<b>(3)</b> Some	<b>(4)</b> Not at all	<b>(8)</b> N/A
1. Improving specific courses					
2. Modifying curriculum					
3. Improving advising and mentoring					
4. Revising learning outcomes/goals					
5. Revising rubrics and/or expectations					
6. Developing/updating assessment plan					
7. Annual assessment reports					
8. Program review					
9. Prospective student and family information					
10. Alumni communication					
11. WASC accreditation (regional accreditation)					
12. Program accreditation					
13. External accountability reporting requirement					
14. Trustee/Governing Board deliberations					
15. Strategic planning					
16. Institutional benchmarking					
17. Academic policy development or modification					
18. Institutional Improvement					
19. Resource allocation and budgeting					
20. New faculty hiring					
21. Professional development for faculty and staff					
22. Recruitment of new students					
23. Other Specify:					

**Q5.2.1.** Please provide a detailed example of how you used the assessment data above.

## Additional Assessment Activities

**Q6.** Many academic units have collected assessment data on aspects of a program that are not related to PLOs (i.e., impacts of an advising center, etc.). **If** your program/academic unit has collected data on the program elements, please briefly report your results here. **[Word limit: 300]**

**Q7.** What PLO(s) do you plan to assess next year?

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. Critical thinking   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Information literacy  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Written communication   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Oral communication  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Quantitative literacy   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Inquiry and analysis  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. Creative thinking   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 8. Reading   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 9. Team work   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 10. Problem solving  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. Civic knowledge and engagement   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 12. Intercultural knowledge and competency   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 13. Ethical reasoning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 14. Foundations and skills for lifelong learning                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 15. Global learning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 16. Integrative and applied learning   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 17. Overall competencies for GE Knowledge  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 18. Overall competencies in the major/discipline                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 19. Other, specify any PLOs that were assessed in 2015-2016 but<br>not included above: |
|                          | a.   |
|                          | b.   |
|                          | c.   |

**Q8.** Have you attached any files to this form? If yes, please list every attached file here:



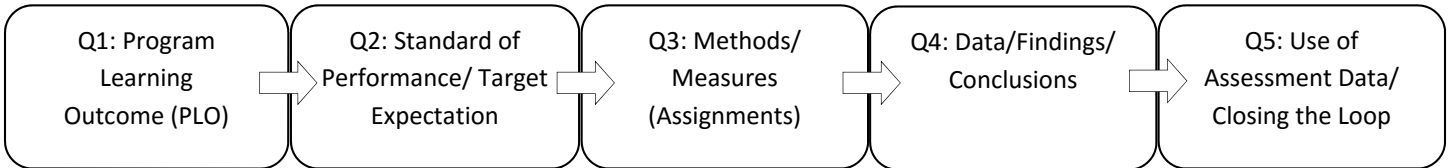
## Program Information

<b>P1. Program/Concentration Name(s):</b>				<b>P2. Program Director:</b>						
<b>P1.1. Report Authors:</b>				<b>P2.1. Department Chair:</b>						
<b>P3. Academic unit: Department, Program, or College:</b>				<b>P4. College:</b>						
<b>P5. Fall 2015 enrollment for Academic unit (See <a href="#">Department Fact Book</a> by the Office of Institutional Research for fall enrollment):</b>				<b>P6. Program Type: [Select only one]</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Undergraduate baccalaureate major <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Credential <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Master's degree <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Doctorate (Ph.D./Ed.D./Ed.S./D.P.T./etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Other. Please specify:						
<b><i>Undergraduate Degree Program(s):</i></b> <b>P7. Number of undergraduate degree programs the academic unit has:</b>  <b>P7.1. List all the name(s):</b>  <b>P7.2. How many concentrations appear on the diploma for this undergraduate program?</b>				<b><i>Master Degree Program(s):</i></b> <b>P8. Number of Master's degree programs the academic unit has:</b>  <b>P8.1. List all the name(s):</b>  <b>P8.2. How many concentrations appear on the diploma for this master program?</b>						
<b><i>Credential Program(s):</i></b> <b>P9. Number of credential programs the academic unit has:</b>  <b>P9.1. List all the names:</b>				<b><i>Doctorate Program(s)</i></b> <b>P10. Number of doctorate degree programs the academic unit has:</b>  <b>P10.1. List all the name(s):</b>						
When was your assessment plan?	1. Before 2007-08	2. 2007-08	3. 2008-09	4. 2009-10	5. 2010-11	6. 2011-12	7. 2012-13	8. 2013-14	9. 2014-15	10. No formal plan
P11. Developed										
P11.1. Last updated										
								1. Yes	2. No	3. Don't Know
<b>P12. Have you developed a curriculum map for this program?</b>										
<b>P13. Has the program indicated explicitly where the assessment of student learning occurs in the curriculum?</b>										
<b>P14. Does the program have a capstone class?</b>										
<b>P15. Does the program have ANY capstone project?</b>										

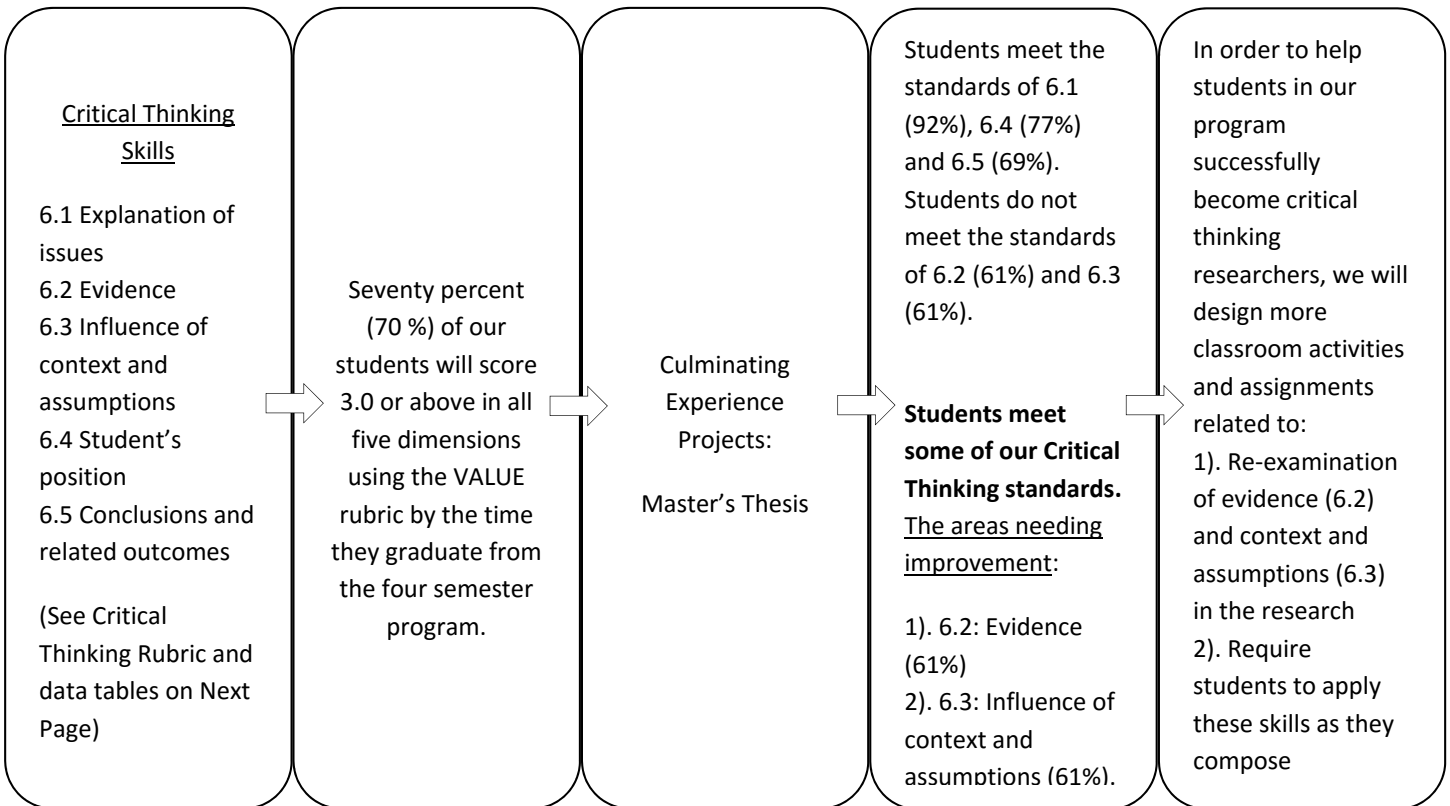
## Assessing Other Program Learning Outcomes (Optional)

If your program assessed PLOs not reported above, please summarize your assessment activities in the table below. If you completed part of the assessment process, but not the full process (for example, you revised a PLO and developed a new rubric for measuring it), then put N/A in any boxes that do not apply.

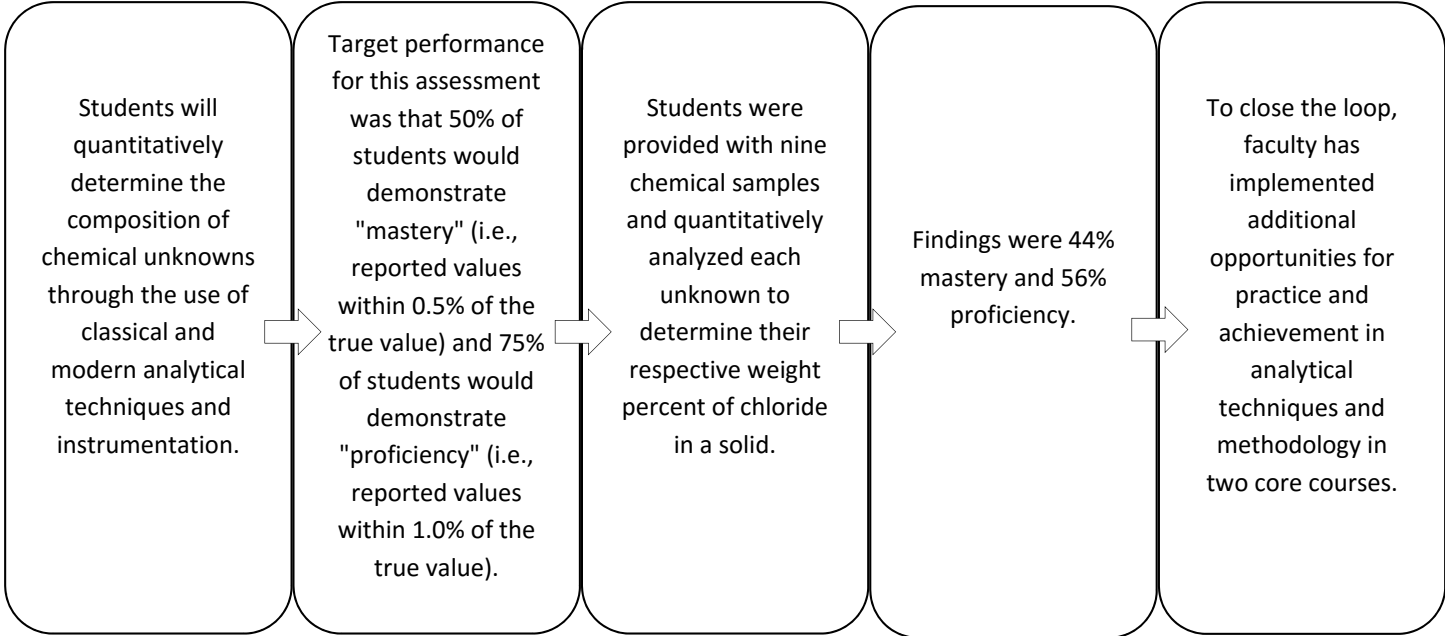
### Report Assessment Activities on Additional PLOs Here



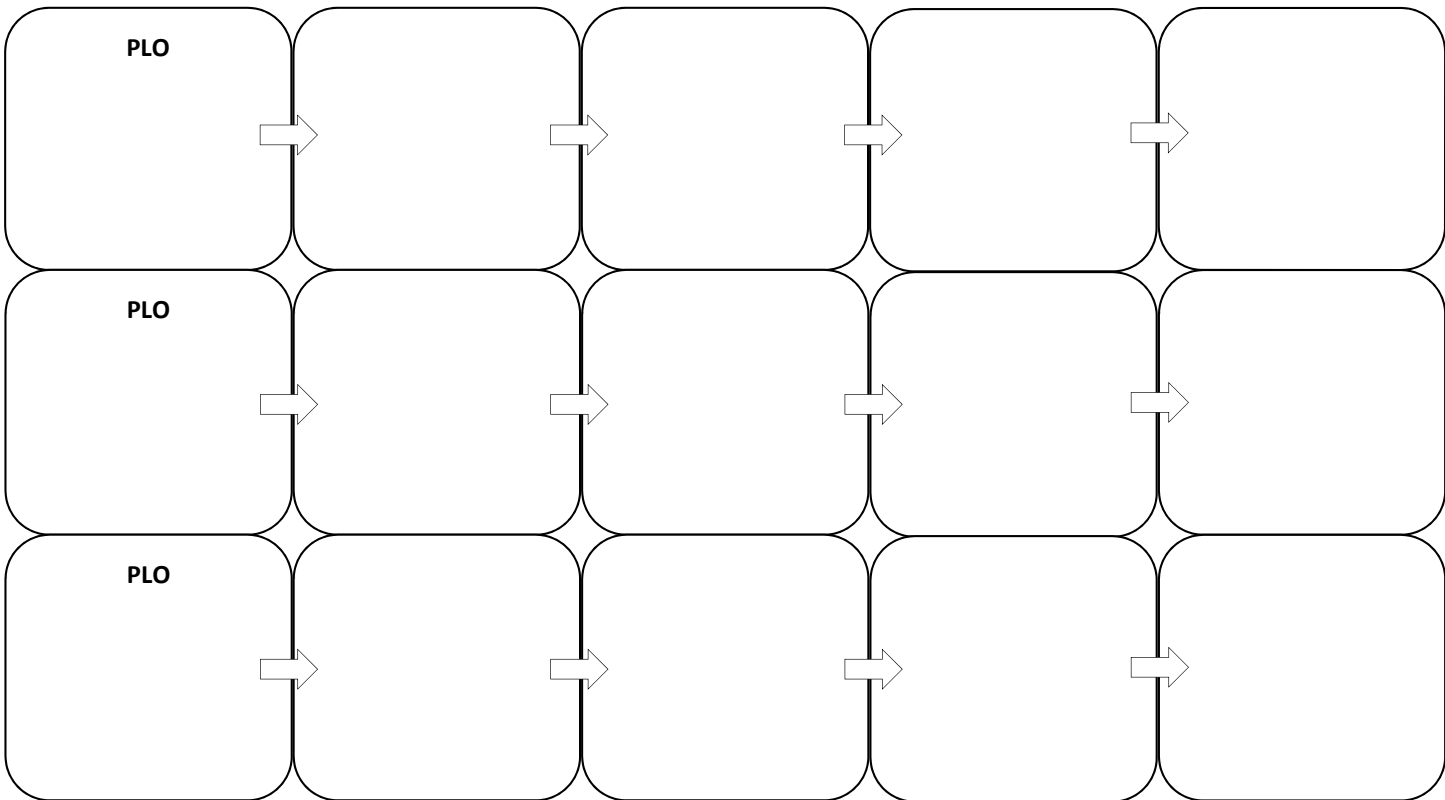
### Example: Educational Technology (iMet), MA



**Example: Chemistry BS/BA**



**Additional PLOs**



## Attachment I: The Development of Program Learning Outcomes

### The Importance of Verbs

<b>Multiple Interpretations:</b>	<b>Fewer Interpretations:</b>
to grasp	to write
to know	to recite
to enjoy	to identify
to believe	to construct
to appreciate	to solve
to understand	to compare

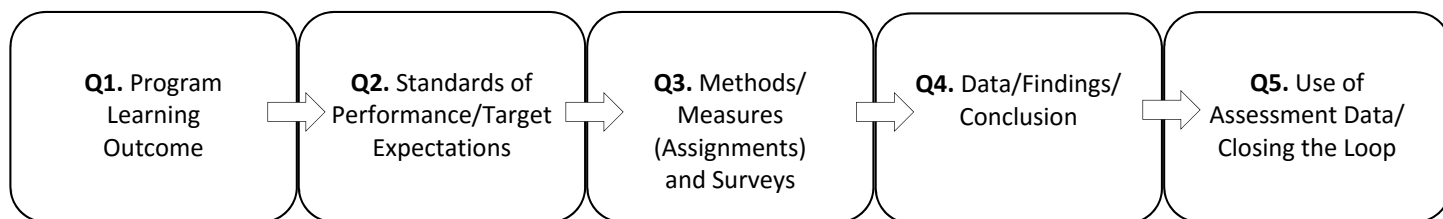
### Relevant Verbs in Defining Learning Outcomes

(Based on Bloom's Taxonomy)

Knowledge	Comprehension	Application	Analysis	Synthesis	Evaluation
Cite	Arrange	Apply	Analyze	Arrange	Appraise
Define	Classify	Change	Appraise	Assemble	Assess
Describe	Convert	Compute	Break Down	Categorize	Choose
Identify	Describe	Construct	Calculate	Collect	Compare
Indicate	Defend	Demonstrate	Categorize	Combine	Conclude
Know	Diagram	Discover	Compare	Compile	Contrast
Label	Discuss	Dramatize	Contrast	Compose	Criticize
List	Distinguish	Employ	Criticize	Construct	Decide
Match	Estimate	Illustrate	Debate	Create	Discriminate
Memorize	Explain	Interpret	Determine	Design	Estimate
Name	Extend	Investigate	Diagram	Devise	Evaluate
Outline	Generalize	Manipulate	Differentiate	Explain	Explain
Recall	Give Examples	Modify	Discriminate	Formulate	Grade
Recognize	Infer	Operate	Distinguish	Generate	Interpret
Record	Locate	Organize	Examine	Manage	Judge
Relate	Outline	Practice	Experiment	Modify	Justify
Repeat	Paraphrase	Predict	Identify	Organizer	Measure
Reproduce	Predict	Prepare	Illustrate	Perform	Rate
Select	Report	Produce	Infer	Plan	Relate
State	Restate	Schedule	Inspect	Prepare	Revise
Underline	Review	Shop	Inventory	Produce	Score
	Suggest	Sketch	Outline	Propose	Select
	Summarize	Solve	Question	Rearrange	Summarize
	Translate	Translate	Relate	Reconstruct	Support
		Use	Select	Relate	Value
			Solve	Reorganize	
			Test	Revise	

## Attachment II: Simplified Annual Assessment Report

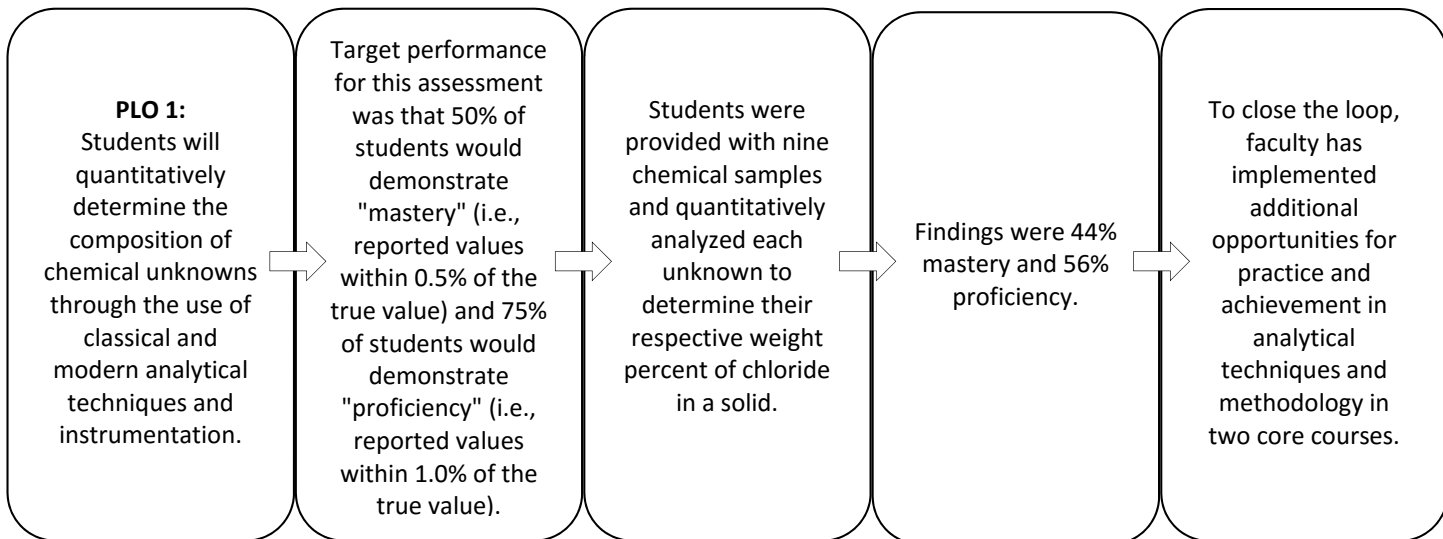
### Basic Assessment



#### Examples:

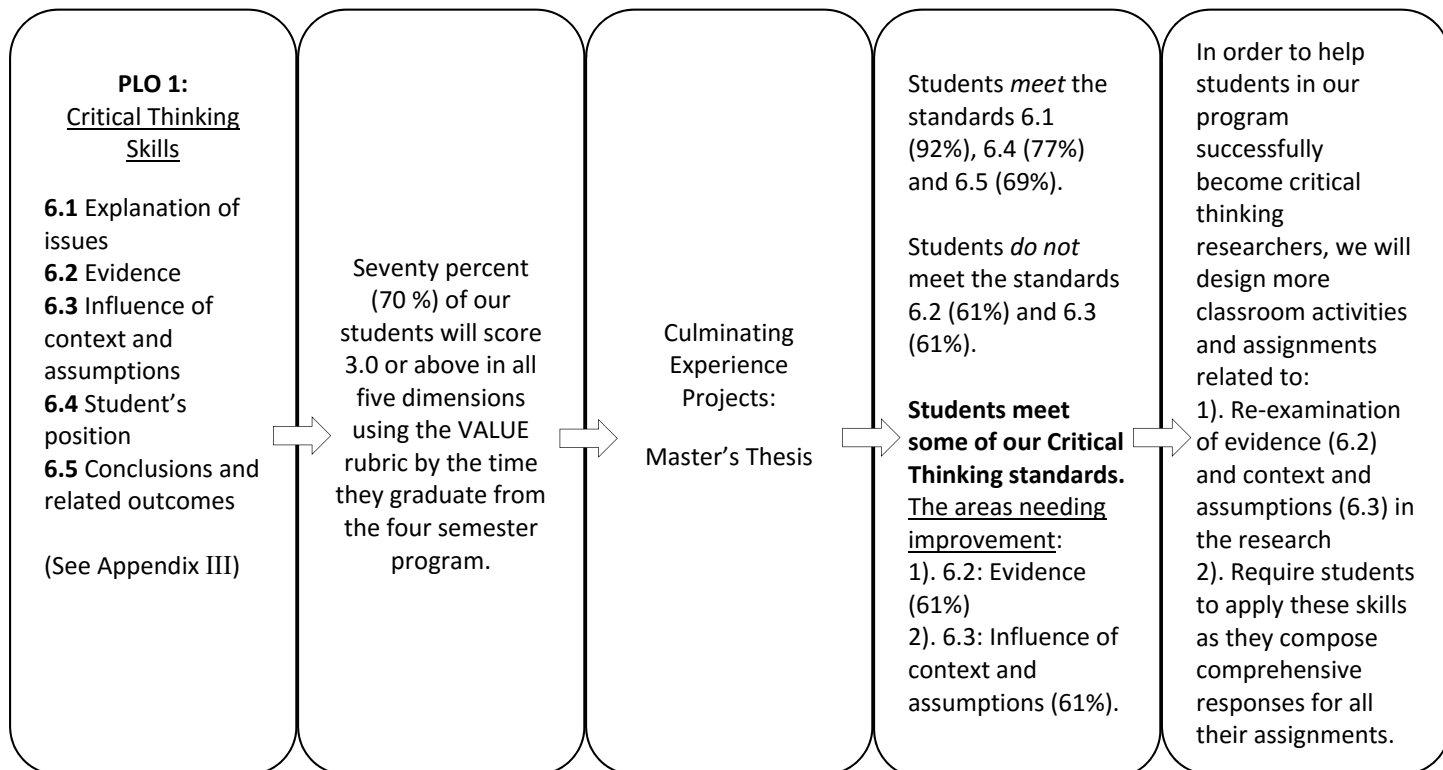
Chemistry, BS/BA

(Example of Content Knowledge)

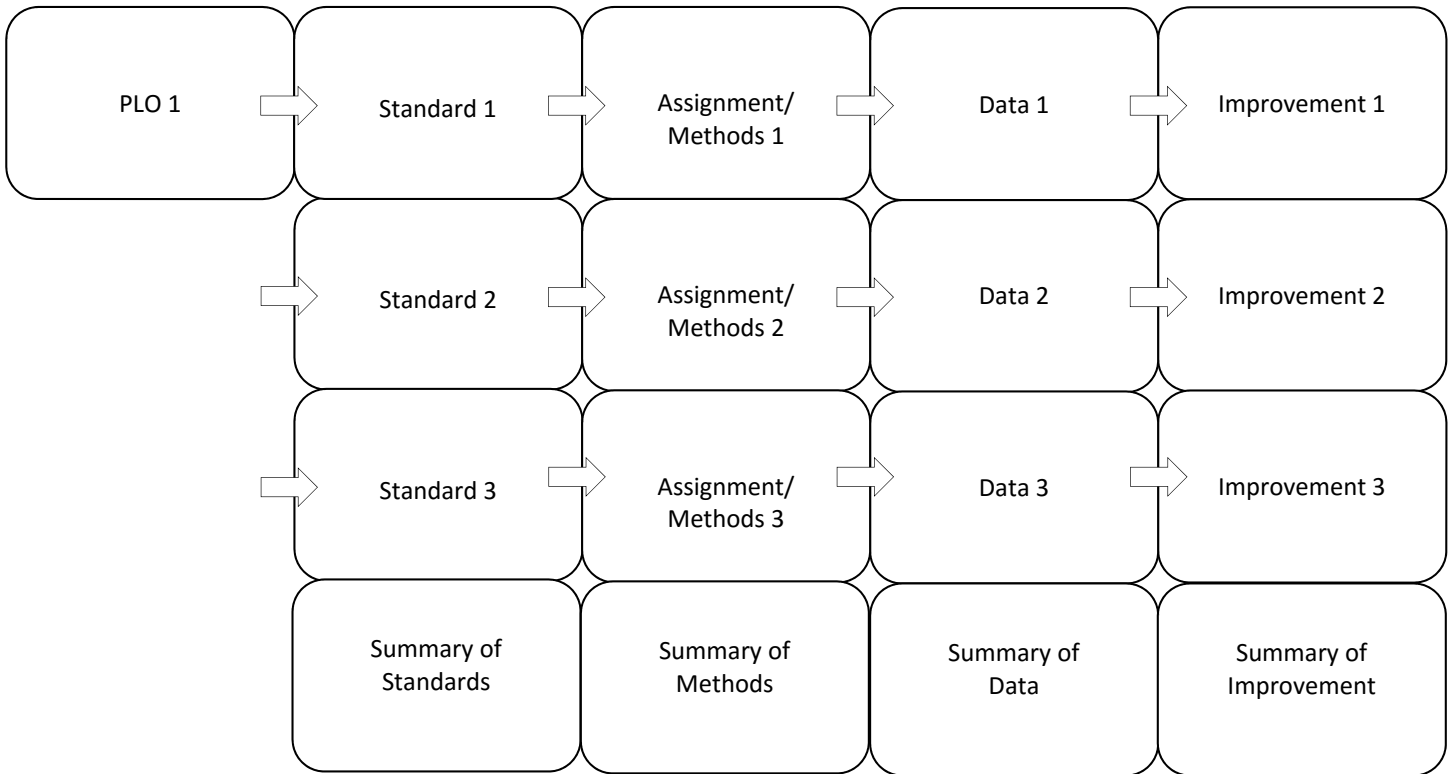


Educational Technology (iMet), MA

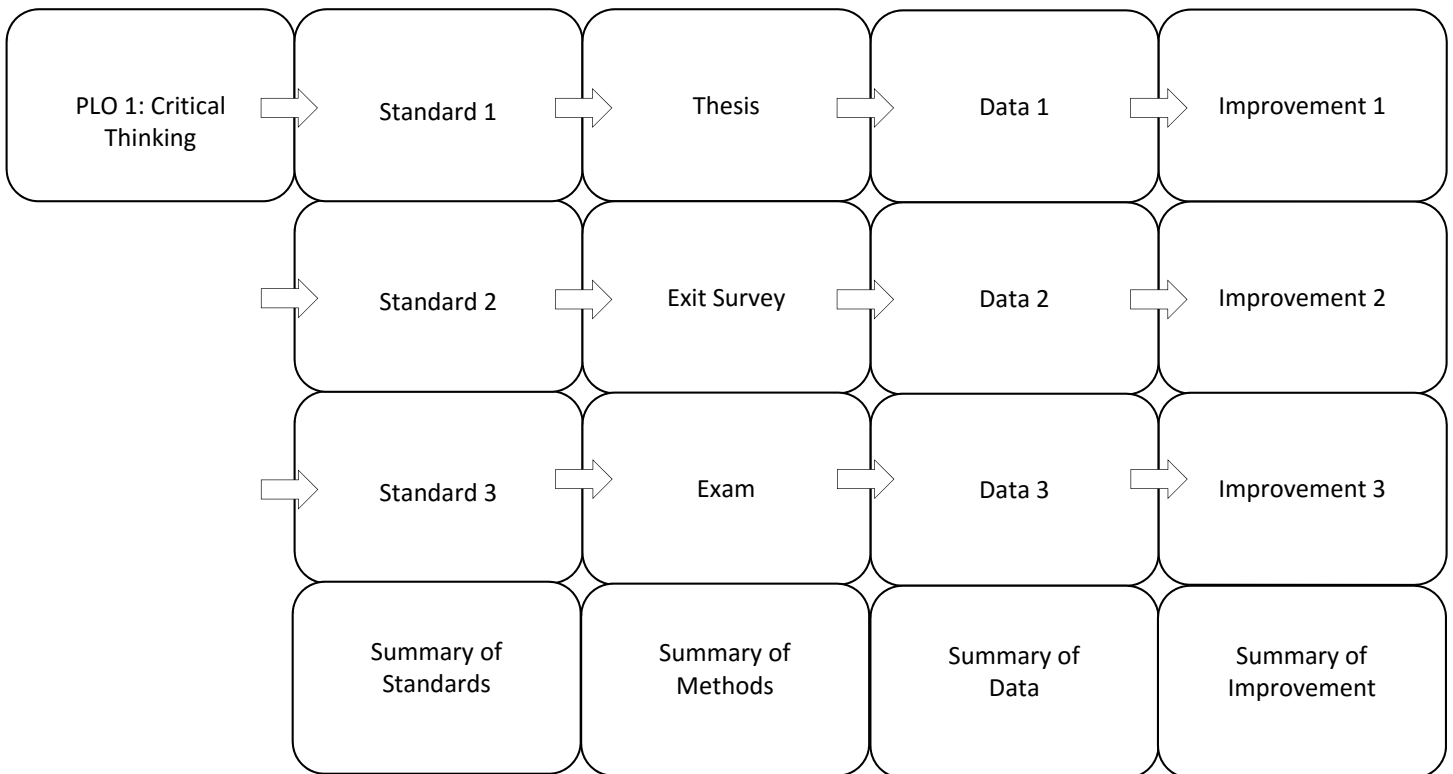
(Example of Complicated Skills)



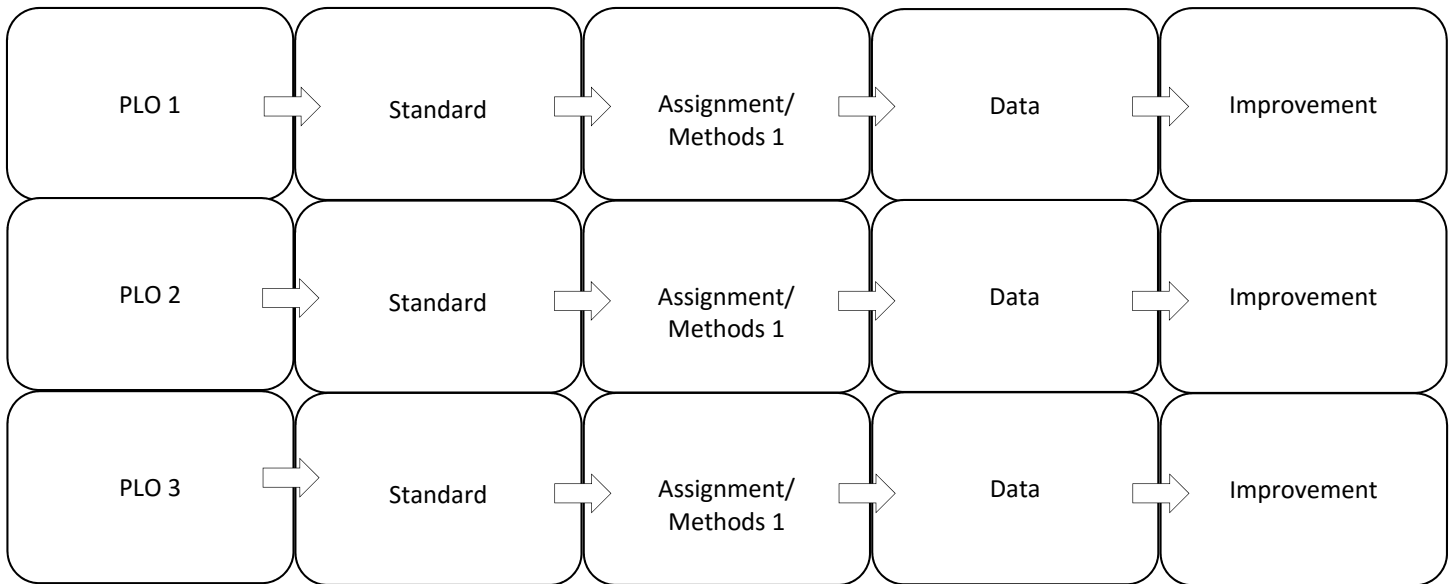
**Assessment Flowchart – Multiple Methods**  
One PLO Assessed by Multiple Assignments



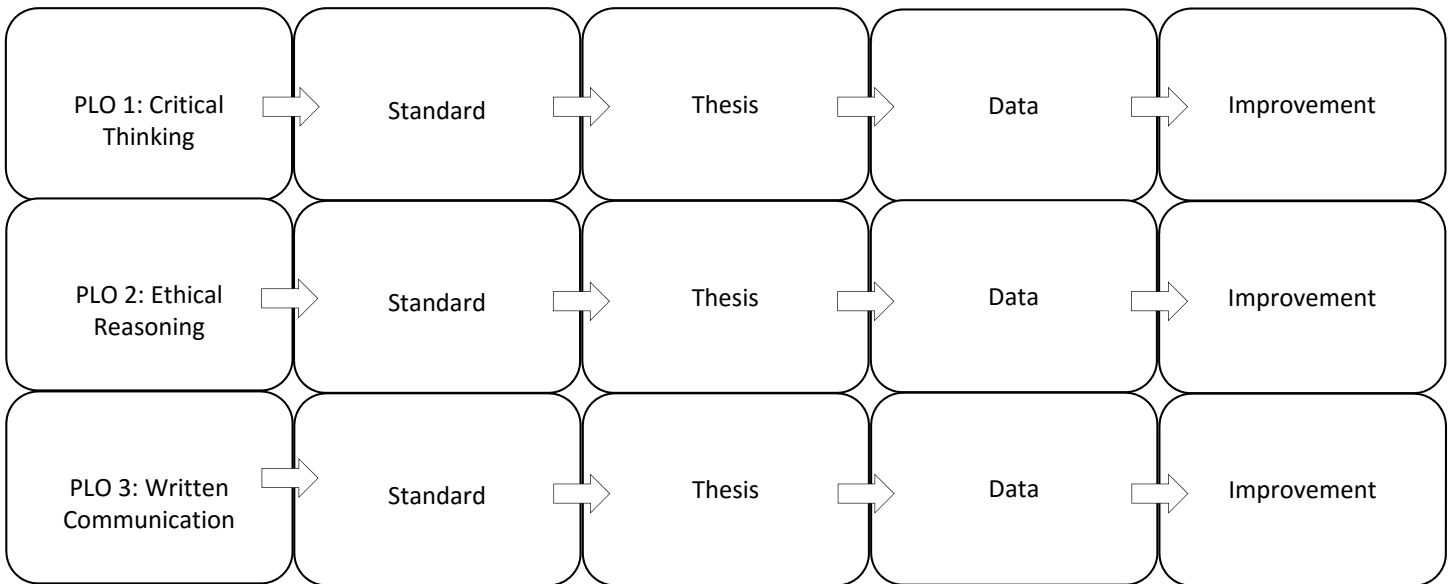
**Multiple-Methods Example:**



**Assessment Flowchart – Multiple PLOs**  
Multiple PLOs Assessed by One Assignment



**Multiple-PLOs Example**



**Attachment III: Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) for the Educational Technology (iMet) Graduate Program**

**Table I: The Results for Critical Thinking Skill<sup>2</sup>**

Note: Data shown here drawn from Data Collection Sheet<sup>1</sup>

Different Levels <sup>2</sup> Five Criteria (Areas) <sup>2</sup>	Capstone (4)	Milestone (3)	Milestone (2)	Benchmark (1)	Total (N=10)
<b>6.1: Explanation of issues</b>	38%	54%	0%	8%	(100%, N=13)
<b>6.2: Evidence</b>	15%	46%	23%	15%	(100%, N=13)
<b>6.3: Influence of context and assumptions</b>	15%	46%	23%	15%	(100%, N=13)
<b>6.4: Student's position</b>	23%	54%	8%	15%	(100%, N=13)
<b>6.5: Conclusions and related outcomes</b>	15%	54%	15%	15%	(100%, N=13)

**Standards of Performance for Education Technology (iMet) Graduate Students**

**Q2.3.** If your program has an explicit standard(s) of performance for the selected PLO, describe the desired level of learning: *Seventy percent (70 %) of our students will score 3.0 or above using the VALUE rubric by the time they graduate from the four semester program.*

<sup>1</sup>Critical Thinking Data Collection Sheet

Different Levels <sup>2</sup> Five Criteria (Areas) <sup>2</sup>	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	Total (N=10)
6.1: Explanation of issues	5	7	0	1	(N=13)
6.2: Evidence	2	6	3	2	(N=13)
6.3: Influence of context and assumptions	2	6	3	2	(N=13)
6.4: Student's position	3	7	1	2	(N=13)
6.5: Conclusions and related outcomes	2	7	2	2	(N=13)



## <sup>2</sup>Critical Thinking Value Rubric

Criterion	Capstone 4	Milestone 3	Milestone 2	Benchmark 1
<b>6.1: Explanation of issues</b>	Issue/problem to be considered critically is stated clearly and described comprehensively, delivering all relevant information necessary for full understanding.	Issue/problem to be considered critically is stated, described, and clarified so that understanding is not seriously impeded by omissions.	Issue/problem to be considered critically is stated but description leaves some terms undefined, ambiguities unexplored, boundaries undetermined, and/or backgrounds unknown.	Issue/problem to be considered critically is stated without clarification or description.
<b>6.2: Evidence</b> <i>Selecting and using information to investigate a point of view or conclusion</i>	Information is taken from source(s) with enough interpretation/evaluation to develop a comprehensive analysis or synthesis.	Information is taken from source(s) with enough interpretation/evaluation to develop a coherent analysis or synthesis.	Information is taken from source(s) with some interpretation/evaluation, but not enough to develop a coherent analysis or synthesis.	Information is taken from source(s) without any interpretation/evaluation. Viewpoints of experts are taken as fact, without question.
<b>6.3: Influence of context and assumptions</b>	Thoroughly (systematically and methodically) analyzes own and others' assumptions and carefully evaluates the relevance of contexts when presenting a position.	Identifies own and others' assumptions and several relevant contexts when presenting a position.	Questions some assumptions. Identifies several relevant contexts when presenting a position. May be more aware of others' assumptions than one's own (or vice versa).	Shows an emerging awareness of present assumptions (sometimes labels assertions as assumptions).
<b>6.4: Student's position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis)</b>	Specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) is imaginative, taking into account the complexities of an issue. Limits of position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) are acknowledged. Others' points of view are synthesized within position.	Specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) takes into account the complexities of an issue. Others' points of view are acknowledged within position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis).	Specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) acknowledges different sides of an issue.	Specific position (perspective, thesis/hypothesis) is stated, but is simplistic and obvious.
<b>6.5: Conclusions and related outcomes (implications and consequences)</b>	Conclusions and related outcomes (consequences and implications) are logical and reflect students' informed evaluation and ability to place evidence and perspectives discussed in priority order.	Conclusion is logically tied to a range of information, including opposing viewpoints; related outcomes (consequences and implications) are identified clearly.	Conclusion is logically tied to information (because information is chosen to fit the desired conclusion); some related outcomes (consequences and implications) are identified clearly.	Conclusion is inconsistently tied to some of the information discussed; related outcomes (consequences and implications) are oversimplified.