[T]here are known knowns; there are things we know that we know. There are known unknowns; that is to say there are things that, we now know we don't know. But there are also unknown unknowns – there are things we do not know we don't know.

Donald Rumsfeld, Feb. 12, 2002

We know what we are, but not what we may be.

William Shakespeare, Hamlet
Cal Poly University/General Education Assessment Plan

The university will **create a plan** to assess the University Learning Outcomes (ULOs) with special emphasis on the five Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) core competencies, **identify standards** of performance for students in the institution, and **implement a coordinated assessment of student learning over a single ten-year cycle of review**. As a result the university will be able to provide evidence of student learning, take steps in areas where improvement is needed, and demonstrate where learning has improved. Assessment is intended to be an ongoing effort for continuous improvement of student learning.

(ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT COUNCIL - Draft as of November 2012)

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**PROVIDE A SCHEDULED COMPREHENSIVE & COLLABORATIVE MECHANISM OF CAMPUS-WIDE OUTCOME(S) ASSESSMENT USING GENERAL EDUCATION, MAPPED WITH WASC CORE COMPETENCIES & UNIVERSITY LEARNING OUTCOMES, AS A MAIN LINK BETWEEN PROGRAM AND UNIVERSITY LEARNING**
**Tentative** Learning Outcome Assessment Phases

**Phase 1**
2013-2015
- Critical Thinking
- WASC Core Competency
- ULO: Think critically and creatively

**Phase 2**
2014-2016
- Written Communication
- WASC Core Competency
- ULO: Communicate effectively; work productively as individuals & in groups

**Phase 3**
2015-2017
- Quantitative Reasoning
- WASC Core Competency
- ULO: Demonstrate expertise in scholarly discipline

**Phase 4**
2016-2018
- Oral Communication
- WASC Core Competency
- ULO: Communicate effectively; make reasoned decisions

**Phase 5**
2017-2019
- Information Literacy
- WASC Core Competency
- ULO: Engage in lifelong learning

ULO/GENERAL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT PLAN
(AS OF 11/1/2012)
What's in a PHASE...? Learning Outcome Assessment Template
definitions & outcomes

1. **RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENTAL STAGE**
   - THREE (3) QUARTERS (Fall - Spring)
   - Gathering of "learning communities"; research & investigation of outcome; creating a definition; defining tools; conversion of "research" into identifying data needed; beta testing; artifact & tool clarity

2. **PREPARATION STAGE**
   - ONE (1) QUARTER (Summer)
   - Game planning for upcoming collection; continued refinement and testing of tool; organization of constituents

3. **DATA COLLECTION STAGE**
   - ONE (1) QUARTER (Summer)
   - Artifact collection based upon "determined data needed"; training experts and providing support to programs

4. **SCORING/ANALYSIS STAGE**
   - ONE (1) QUARTER (Summer)
   - Evaluation of the artifacts; develop initial report

5. **DATA INTERPRETATION STAGE**
   - ONE (1) QUARTER (Fall)
   - Based upon analysis; summative report; strategies for implementation

6. **PILOT/IMPLEMENTATION STAGE**
   - TWO (2) QUARTERS (Winter - Spring)
   - Pedagogical enhancement; inclusion of "findings"

**ULO/GENERAL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT PLAN**
(AS OF 11/1/2012)

**CAL POLY**
SAN LUIS OBISPO
# University/GE Assessment Timeline

(Learning Outcome cycle - 3 year example)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR ONE</th>
<th>YEAR TWO</th>
<th>YEAR THREE +</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2012</td>
<td>Fall 2013</td>
<td>Fall 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winter 2013</td>
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<td>Spring 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer 2013</td>
<td>Summer 2014</td>
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</tbody>
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1. **Critically Thinking**
   - Research & Development
   - Preparation
   - CTLT/University Training
   - Data Collection
   - Scoring & Analysis
   - Data Interpretation
   - Pilot & Implementation

2. **Written Communication**
   - Research & Development
   - Preparation
   - CTLT/University Training
   - Data Collection

3. **Quantitative Reasoning**
   - Research & Development

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ULO/GENERAL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT PLAN
(AS OF 11/1/2012)

CAL POLY
SAN LUIS OBISPO
What has gone into shaping this plan...?

- **4 conferences based around Assessment & General Education**
  - **WASC Educational Seminar: Retreat on Core Competencies: Critical Thinking & Information Literary**
    - Anaheim, CA - October 2012
  - **CSU/ITL GE Assessment Conference**
    - Long Beach, CA - June 2012
  - **AAC&U General Education and Assessment: New Context, New Cultures**
    - New Orleans, LA - February 2012
  - **WASC Educational Seminar: Retreat on Assessment in Practice**
    - Berkeley, CA - October 2011

- **2 committees**
  - **General Education Governance Board (GEGB)**
  - **Academic Assessment Council**

- **35+ Faculty/Staff, including...**
  - representatives from all colleges
  - Associate Deans
  - CTL leadership
  - former members of the ULO Assessment Project
  - conference teams

ULO/GENERAL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT PLAN
(AS OF 11/1/2012)