Oregon TECH

2019-20
Program Assessment Report
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Section 1 – Applied Psychology Program Mission and Educational Objectives

The mission of the Bachelor of Science program in Applied Psychology is to enable students to apply general knowledge of psychology and in-depth knowledge and skills to specific areas of psychology to communicate effectively, think critically, behave ethically and with cultural awareness, and work interpersonally with people from a wide variety of backgrounds.

The Applied Psychology program's educational objectives are:

1. To produce graduates with effective interpersonal skills who can work in a variety of practical settings;
2. To enable students to obtain the knowledge and skills necessary for immediate employment and/or graduate study in psychology and related areas;
3. To provide opportunities for students to apply their psychological training to employment in business and human service-related organizations – such as (but not limited to) hospitals, mental/behavioral health centers, and the Department of Human Services.
4. To prepare undergraduate students for graduate study in various areas of psychology, such as Social Work, Applied Behavior Analysis, Experimental Psychology, or Marriage and Family Therapy.
5. To serve as a minor to complement other programs on campus.

Section 2 – Program Description and History

The Department of Humanities and Social Sciences added the Bachelor of Science in Applied Psychology on the Klamath Falls campus in 1997. The program has become well established and continues to evolve in significant ways. A minor in Psychology is also available to students. The Applied Psychology program serves students in the major, students in the minor, and serves General Education by providing courses that fulfill social science requirements. Approval to offer the Applied Psychology degree at the Portland-Metro campus was received June, 2014. A significant revision of the curriculum was undertaken during the 2014/15 academic year and was implemented in 2015/16. This revision increased the core course requirements to be consistent with American Psychological Association standards, eliminated the requirement to select an emphasis/track, required applied experience course credit, and increased academic advisors ability to help students select electives best suited to their specific career path. The Bachelor of Science program in Applied Psychology has faculty on both the Klamath Falls and Portland-Metro campuses, as well as online.

Enrollment for the Applied Psychology major started very high, with 195 students enrolled in the Fall of 1997. Enrollment declined after 1997, but remained relatively stable between 2002 and 2013 with consistent number of students, totaling between 125 and 157 students actively enrolled each year. Enrollment in Fall 2014 decreased to 118 students in Klamath Falls. Enrollment in Fall of 2017 was 54 primarily on-campus students (between Klamath Falls and Portland-Metro) and 27 primarily online students, making for 81 students total. By spring term 2018 there were 69 primarily on-campus students (between Klamath Falls and Portland-Metro) and 28 primarily online students, making for 97 students total. It is not completely clear why the enrollment in the Applied Psychology program has continued to decline. It is possible that the growth in other similar majors (e.g., Population Health Management) has provided potential students with more choice and the opportunity to seek a degree that more appropriately aligns with their interests.

The Applied Psychology program has historically graduated between 30-56 students annually, with 38 students graduating in Spring 2018. As of Fall 2020, the Applied Psychology program has 153 majors – 80 of which are on the

Klamath Falls campus, 14 are on the Portland-Metro campus, and 59 are online. Of Applied Psychology graduates, 68% report being employed after graduation, 26% report continuing their education after graduation, 5% report still seeking a job after graduation. This produces a "success rate" of 95%. The median annual income of our Bachelor of Science graduates is $30,291.

The Applied Psychology program has maintained networked connections with several local organizations in Klamath Falls – including Klamath Basin Behavioral Health, the Department of Human Services, and Sky Lakes Hospital – allowing for our students to gain experiential learning through our externship opportunities, the OIT Well-bring program, and the Relationship Building Program. Our program also allows students to gain experience working with the Autistic community by working in our BIG Applied Behavior Analysis Clinic in Klamath Falls.

Section 3 – Program Student Learning Outcomes

These Program Student Learning Outcomes were last reviewed and assessed during the 2014-15 academic year.

PSLO 1: Students will demonstrate an understanding of and be able to use major research methodologies in psychology, including design, data analysis, and interpretation

PSLO 2: Students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of relevant ethical issues including a general understanding of the APA Code of Ethics.

PSLO 3: Students will demonstrate basic counseling techniques.

PSLO 4: Students will demonstrate effective writing conventions by using APA style effectively in empirically based reports, literature reviews and theoretical papers.

PSLO 5: Students will demonstrate effective oral communication skills in various formats (e.g. group discussion, debate and lecture).

Section 4 – Curriculum Map

Applied Psychology B.S. Student Learning Outcomes Table

F – Foundation P – Practice C – Capstone

COURSE	PSLO 1	PSLO 2	PSLO 3	PSLO 4	PSLO 5	ESLO 1 - Communication	ESLO 2 – Inquiry & Analysis	ESLO 3 – Ethical Reasoning	ESLO 4 – Quantitative Literacy	ESLO 5 - Teamwork	ESLO 6 – Diverse Perspectives
PSY 201/202/203	F	F			F						
PSY 215/216		F	F		F						
PSY 220		F			F						
PSY 225	P			P	F				P		
PSY 301		P	P		P	F					F
PSY 311/312	F	F			F						
PSY 313/314	P	P		C	P		P		P		
PSY 317		P	F		P						
PSY 321/322	F	F			F						
PSY 330/331	F	F			F						F
PSY 334/335		P			P			F			
PSY 336/337		F			F						
PSY 339	F	F									
PSY 407	C	C	P		C						C
PSY 420		C			C						C
PSY 455	F	F			P						
PSY 475	C	C		C	C					P	

Section 5 – Assessment Cycle

Applied Psychology B.S. Cycle for PSLOs and ESLOs

Outcome	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
PSLO 1	Direct PSY 225 Indirect Student Exit Survey		
PSLO 2		Direct PSY 301 Direct PSY 313 Indirect Student Exit Survey	
PSLO 3			Direct PSY 301 Indirect Student Exit Survey
PSLO 4	PSY 313 Indirect Student Exit Survey		
PSLO 5			PSY 475 Indirect Student Exit Survey
ESLO 1		PSY 301 Indirect Student Exit Survey	
ESLO 2	PSY 313 Indirect Student Exit Survey		
ESLO 3		PSY 335 Indirect Student Exit Survey	
ESLO 4	Indirect Student Exit Survey		
ESLO 5		PSY 475 Indirect Student Exit Survey	
ESLO 6			PSY 330 Indirect Student Exit Survey

Going forward the Applied Psychology Program plans to follow the Oregon Tech's 3-year ESLO assessment cycle, and 3-year PSLO cycle.

Section 6 – Assessment Activity

- **Activity**: The activity being used for the direct measure of the Teamwork ESLO is a group presentation assignment used in Dr. Petersen's PSY 475 (Capstone in Applied Psychology) course during the Winter 2020 term. This particular assignment asks students to team up into groups of 4 to design a project which applies Positive Psychology principles to benefit a target population in the local community. See Appendix for this assignment. The Teamwork ESLO was assessed via faculty and student responses on a Qualtrics survey. The Student Exit Survey was also used to evaluate students' ESLOs.

- **Rubric**: The standard ESLO Rubric is being used to score these activities.

- **Sample**: Nine (9) student surveys describing their Teamwork experience were assessed. These equates to approximately 7% of Applied Psychology majors at OIT. PSY 475 is required as part of the Applied Psychology major, so this course allowed us to access a representative sample of Applied Psychology majors, but the representativeness of this sample could be improved by increasing the sample size. No faculty survey responses were collected.

- **Reliability**: The Applied Psychology Assessment Coordinator, Dr. Carey Fitzgerald, compiled the artifacts described above and assessed the Teamwork ESLO by applying the survey responses to the ESLO Teamwork rubric.

- **Multiple Sites**: This activity/assignment was presented to students enrolled in PSY 475 during the Winter 2019 term at the Klamath Falls campus. This ESLO was not assessed at our Portland-Metro campus or in our online program.

- **Performance Target**: The target performance level was 75%. This would equate to students earning 21/28, or a "3" (as per the ESLO Rubric), on each of the seven aspects of Teamwork described in the rubric.

- **Performance Level**: The average assessment score across the N = 9 artifacts in PSY 475 was 24/28, which equates to 85.71%. This is above the goal of 75% (21/28), which indicates that students felt that PSY 475 was an effective learning experience for the Teamwork ESLO. However, the Student Exit Surveys indicate 58.8% of Applied Psychology students (10/17) rated their proficiency in Teamwork as "highly proficient," and the remaining 29.4% rated themselves as "proficient." However, when asked *How much has your experience at Oregon Tech contributed to your knowledge, skills, and personal development in these areas?,* approximately 35.29% of students (6/17) stated "Very Much", approximately 23.53% (4/17) stated "Quite a bit," then 17.64% of students (3/17) said "some", and two students replied with "very little." Two students (2/17) did not answer the ESLO questions in the Student Exit Survey.

- **Faculty Discussion:** Applied Psychology faculty plan to discuss these numbers during our next program meeting.

- **Interpretation**: The data imply there is room for improvement in our curriculum, but our sample of students who participated in the Teamwork assignment seem to be confident in the knowledge and skills they are developing at OIT.

Section 7 – Data-driven Action Plans: Changes Resulting from Assessment

- **Action Driver:** The average assessment score was above the Performance Target, but our Student Exit Survey responses indicate room for improvement.

- **Action Specifics:** While PSY 475 (Capstone in Psychology) is a fitting and adequate course in which to assess Teamwork, this ESLO could also be assessed in other psychology courses. It is possible that some of the students who completed the Teamwork ESLO in PSY 475 may be less passionate about the subject of positive psychology, and may be more apt to work better with others in a difference psychology course.

- **Accountability:** The psychology faculty will discuss more courses that could potentially be used to assess Teamwork in the future.

- **Planning and Budgeting:** No financial resources are needed for these changes.

- **Improvements in Assessment Process:** Psychology is a diverse area of study. Therefore, we may need to improve the assessment of the Applied Psychology program by using multiple different courses as a means of gaining more accurate well-rounded data regarding our majors.

- **Reassessment:** This outcome will be reassessed on the new 3-year ESLO cycle, but with more courses being utilized each quarter to measure each ESLO.

Section 8 – Closing the Loop: Evidence of Improvement in Student Learning.

Plans for Improvement**: We will incorporate** more PSY courses into the ESLO Assessment as a means of illustrating the various aspects of Teamwork in psychology. Applied psychology faculty can also provide students with additional training throughout the curriculum, such as in Basic Counseling (PSY 301), about how to work with others (both in psychological science and applied practice) throughout their career.

Applied psychology faculty can also become more educated about all Teamwork criteria in order to infuse training and feedback about proficiency in these areas (such as by providing students with feedback directly from the Teamwork rubric) into all other relevant courses.

APPENDIX

Teamwork Assignment Information Given to Dr. Petersen's PSY 475 students:

Group Project & Presentation:

During the length of the academic term you will be given time each Friday to work with your team of 4 students to design a project which applies Positive Psychology principles to benefit a target population in the local community. The details of this group project proposal will then be presented during the final exam period as a 15 minute presentation followed by facilitation of a question and answer session and class discussion. This group project presentation will be worth 100 points. Group participation will also be anonymously graded by your fellow group members and will be worth 20 points.