



Memo

To: RCCD Academic Senate

From: The Assessment Committees of Moreno Valley College, Norco College, and Riverside City College

cc: District Curriculum Committee

Date: Date

Re: Implementing a Procedure to Update Existing Institutional Learning Outcomes

Introduction

RCCD has four institutional-level learning outcomes (ILOs), which are also often referred to as General Education Student Learning Outcomes (GE SLOs). These ILO's are not the same as RCCD's general education courses that comprise our articulation agreements with other colleges and universities. Hence, this document and other related documents will use term ILOs. RCCD's four interdisciplinary ILOs are as follows:

- Critical thinking
- Information competency and technology literacy
- Communication
- Self-development and global awareness

Between 2018 and 2020, the Riverside Assessment Committee (RAC) assessed all four of RCCD's institutional learning outcomes (ILOs).

One of the outcomes of this assessment was the realization that the language of ILO #1, critical thinking, needs revision for two reasons. First, the ILO is repetitious, and second, it is too long to be able to assess effectively and efficiently. The language of this ILO currently reads as follows:

Students will be able to demonstrate higher order thinking skills about issues, problems, and explanations for which multiple solutions are possible. Students will be able to explore problems and, where possible, solve them. Students will be able to develop, test, and evaluate rival hypotheses. Students will be able to construct sound arguments and evaluate the arguments of others.

RAC determined that this ILO needed to be revised. However, after searching through multiple district documents, we discovered that there was no process in place for revising institutional learning outcomes. After discussing the challenges in assessing this ILO and the fact that there is currently no revision process with our colleagues on the assessment committees at Norco College and Moreno Valley College, the RAC has determined that (1) ILO #1 needs to be revised, and (2) a process for revising ILOs needs to be developed, and (3) the remaining three ILOs should be reviewed for possible revision based on assessment results.

Solution

The solution to this problem is to revise the ILO. To this end, we request the District Academic Senate for permission to form a temporary, one-time workgroup to complete this task. As detailed in the accompanying document, this workgroup's charge is only to revise ILO #1 and review the other three ILOs for possible revision. The workgroup will do these two tasks following the process on the attached document.

Process

We are asking not for a standing committee for this project but a workgroup, whose scope and charge are limited. The group's work will last no more than one year, and the charge is (1) the revision of the language in ILO #1 and (2) a review of the remaining three ILOs for possible revision based on assessment results. Assessment results form the foundation of the work of this group, and it for this reason that its scope and charge are limited.

While the details of the process for revising ILOs can be found on the attached document, in short, the process will occur like this:

1. Determine the workgroup's charge
2. Create a workgroup with limited scope, process, and membership
3. The workgroup meets monthly with the following guiding questions to direct the group's work:
 - a. Does the revised GE SLO reflect feedback from constituents?
 - b. Is the revised GE SLO written in clear language?
 - c. Is the revised GE SLO measurable?

4. Workgroup will have an open feedback loop to their various constituents to ensure real time feedback and changes.
5. The workgroup will update the local academic senates and District and local curriculum committees on the changes.
6. With the approval of the District Academic Senate and the BOT, changes to the ILOs are accepted and implemented