

Weekend College and Experiential Learning

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose

Institutional Mission Reference

The mission and major goals of Old Dominion University can be found in the University Catalog and the 2000-2005 Strategic Plan. An important part of the University's mission is to offer "lifelong learning opportunities" through "creative innovation." Weekend College and Experiential Learning are two programs in which the University has committed resources and implemented policies to provide pathways to completion of undergraduate and graduate programs.

Institutional Goal(s) Supported

To support Old Dominion University's mission, Weekend College develops and offers programs on the Norfolk campus and at the higher education centers to serve the citizens of the region. Experiential Learning provides assessment options for students who can demonstrate prior learning through training and work experience; these options provide one way in which the University can serve members of the military, as well as other working professionals returning to obtain a degree.

Intended Objectives for your unit, Methods for Assessment, and Criteria for Success for each Intended Objective

Intended Objective 1

Design and implement assessment plans for Weekend College degree completion programs that will result in the identification of program outcomes, and evaluation of format and content areas by students and faculty to be used for future program planning.

Method for Assessing Objective 1 and Criterion for Success: Alumni and Current Student Survey, faculty focus group, student focus group. Analysis of data and implementation of program changes recommended from data.

Intended Objective 2

Design and implement needs assessment surveys for creation of degree programs in three specific areas

Method for Assessing Objective 2 and Criterion for Success: Create and distribute needs assessment in the following areas: geographic information systems, digital writing and design, and interdisciplinary degree completion program; use community focus groups for first two programs, and faculty group for development of third area. Analysis of data and implementation of three programs by Fall 2002.

Intended Objective 3

Continue to develop the faculty assessor training program in the areas of assessment options and evaluation issues.

Method for Assessing Objective 3 and Criterion for Success: Use faculty workshops to examine inter-rater (inter-faculty) reliability when rating a portfolio; and to examine a combination of assessment methods to evaluate prior learning at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Reliability rates within departments and faculty surveys demonstrating use of combination of assessment methods.

Intended Objective 4

Continue the development of clear criteria for graduate level prior learning assessment

Method for Assessing Objective 4 and Criterion for Success: Experiential Learning Committee review of approved portfolio projects and faculty assessor surveys. Consistent use of graduate level criteria in the prior learning assessment.

Intended Objective 5

Effective evaluations of training programs at the organizational level to foster educational partnerships between the Old Dominion University and business and industry.

Method for Assessing Objective 5 and Criterion for Success: Use evaluation process recommended and approved by the Experiential Learning Committee; successful completion of three evaluations of organizations with implementation of partnership plans.

Intended Objective 6

Expansion of Experiential Learning Services for undergraduate and graduate students through the continued development of student service tools, such Web site, information sessions, liaison work among students, departments and faculty assessors

Method for Assessing Objective 6 and Criterion for Success: Student surveys and focus groups locally and through TELETECHNET; increased level of understanding of program functions and policies and level of satisfaction with services provided.

Intended Objective 7

Effectively work with the higher education centers to develop and promote weekend programs and use of Experiential Learning options among students.

Method for Assessing Objective 7 and Criterion for Success: Information sessions for staff and students; training for students. New programming, 5% increase in student enrollment in weekend programs, and 10% increase in experiential learning completion rate .