

Health Sciences Student Assessment Plan

The Department of Kinesiology and Health Sciences student learning goals describe the aims for Health Science majors at Hendrix College. These outcomes are consistent with the Hendrix College strategic plan, department mission, and the standards set by professional organizations within the field. All programs address these student outcomes through specialized learning objectives. Students who successfully complete a BA in Health Sciences should demonstrate knowledge, skills, and dispositions in the following areas:

1. **Demonstrate content knowledge in the field of Health Sciences**, covering a breadth of areas including the natural sciences, human anatomy and physiology, psychology, kinesiology, research ethics, and public health.
2. **Demonstrate competency in and successful application of Health Sciences-related skills** through laboratory participation, internships, research, and service learning.
3. **Demonstrate effective oral and written communication**, including the use of information technology, in both academic and professional settings.
4. **Demonstrate the ability to think critically** through 1) the acquisition, analysis, and interpretation of data and 2) the procurement, evaluation, and application of current research literature.
5. **Demonstrate professional and personal growth**, including 1) advocacy for a healthy, active lifestyle, 2) promotion of diversity, social justice, and professional ethics, 3) shared responsibility with peers and 4) pursuit of lifelong learning beyond Hendrix College.

Collection of Assessment Data

To ensure that the above learning goals are met, numerous pieces of data will be collected on an annual basis.

Learning Goal 1: Content Knowledge

Tracking student achievement will be the principle means of assessing knowledge within the major. The Department will collect samples of each student's work in core courses. This includes scores from tests, lab and field work experiences as well as senior capstone grades. The Department will also gather data on the distribution of grade for the senior capstone project.

Learning Goal 2: Competency in Health Sciences-related Skills

The Department will keep a record of how many students complete internships and research. This information will be helpful in determining if students are gaining practical experience in the Health Sciences field. The Department will also collect samples of each student's work in core courses. This includes scores from tests, lab and field work experiences as well as senior capstone grades.

Learning Goal 3: Communication

The Department will track the number of students that present (oral or poster) at local, state, regional, or national conferences. The Department will collect representative student papers from courses throughout the curriculum. These will be examined by members of the Department and will provide us with information concerning overall quality of student writing and research in a given year.

Learning Goal 4: Critical Thinking

There are three methods the Department will use to assess reflection and critical thinking.

1. Student debriefing (oral and written) at the end of student teaching and internships
2. Classroom activities such as the development of journals, student papers and laboratory assignments.
3. Senior capstone paper and presentation

Learning Goal 5: Professional and Personal Growth

The Department will keep a record of the feedback given to students by their preceptors when completing internships. These experiences will also increase student exposure to people from diverse backgrounds. Professionalism may also be assessed in labs, classroom discussion, and group projects. Exit interviews to determine the percentage of graduates entering a career or graduate study in the field of Health Sciences. We will also track the applications, acceptances, and matriculations of our students into professional schools and clinical programs.