

PLO Assessment Template

Program: Psychology

Semester: Spring 2020

PLO 1: Understand the major theoretical perspectives in psychology and analyze the implications of these theories.

Method of assessment: Research Paper

Criteria: Students in the program will achieve an average of 70%

Results

Quantitative (*Average of success rate*):

82% of students met or exceeded the criterion of 70%.

Qualitative (*Examples of guiding questions below*):

In what areas were students most successful?

Students were

We experienced some surprise about the paper – students would make one suggested edit, then fail to implement those same edits elsewhere in the paper.

We were also somewhat surprised about how narrowly they thought about relevant theories when applying them to their paper – they had difficulty. One pleasant surprise was that, given the transition to online teaching this semester due to Covid-19, students took a high degree of independent initiative when working on this research project. There is a lot more dialogue and visits in office hours during a typical semester, but students were less engaged with faculty yet produced pretty high-quality work.

Would a different assessment/tracking method be more appropriate?

It might make good sense to have a specific assignment that encourages students to think critically about big picture ideas and theories in psychology. This type of assignment might also help remind students of theories that they can then use to inform their research hypotheses. Since hypotheses.

