

A TAXONOMY OF POTENTIAL ASSESSMENT OUTCOMES

1. STUDENT RETENTION

- Persistence to *course* completion
- Persistence to completion of *first semester/quarter*
- Persistence to completion of *first year*
- Total number of *courses or units/credits* completed
- Persistence to *program* completion
- Persistence to *degree or certificate* completion
- *Time taken* to complete degree or certificate.

2. ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE/ACHIEVEMENT

- *Course content knowledge*
- Course-related academic *skills* (e.g., writing; critical thinking)
- Total number or percentage of students in *good academic standing* (vs. academic probation or dismissal) during first term or first year
- Total number or percentage of courses *passed* during first term or year
- Total number or percentage of courses *completed with a grade of “C” or higher*
- *Cumulative GPA* at end of first term, or first year, or at graduation
- Performance on *professional certification/licensing exams* (e.g., teaching, nursing)
- *Transfer Rate*: percentage of students who expect to transfer to 4-year institutions and actually do; & percentage of students who do not initially expect to transfer but do).
- *Transfer “Readiness”*: academic performance at 4-year institutions after transfer.
- *Graduate/Professional School “Readiness”*: academic performance at graduate or professional schools after completion of the baccalaureate degree.

3. ATTITUDINAL OUTCOMES

- Student *satisfaction*—with course, program, or institution
- Student *attitude toward the subject matter*
- Student *attitude change* with respect to a course issue or topic (e.g., diversity)
- Students’ *educational aspirations*
- *Alumni satisfaction*—with course program, or institution.

4. BEHAVIORAL OUTCOMES

- *Re-enrollment* in subsequent courses *within the discipline or program*
- Students’ *use of campus resources & support services*
- Students’ *social integration into the college community* (e.g., reported frequency of interaction with peers &/or faculty outside the classroom).

5. PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES

- Leadership, Citizenship, etc.

6. VOCATIONAL OUTCOMES

- Job/Career *placement*
- Job/Career *success* (e.g., employer ratings of graduates’ career readiness & job performance).