

Andrews University Philosophy of Assessment

Andrews University believes that assessment is an integral part of good educational practice. Assessment occurs at admission, in the classroom, in departments, in schools, and at the administrative level. Routine assessments are made of faculty and staff effectiveness, and quality of services offered across the university. Assessment is also conducted within non-academic programming and residence halls.

The ultimate goal of assessment at Andrews University is the improvement of student learning. This includes not only competence and skills in one's field, but also goals relating to spiritual and ethical development, service, and the ability to work with people

surveys, inform the institution how well it is achieving its mission that students will Seek Knowledge, Affirm Faith, and be prepared to Change the World.

Andrews University believes that assessment information should be shared at several levels. Student learning outcomes are shared with students in course outlines, program handbooks, and in program descriptions in the bulletin. Assessment results are shared with program faculty to facilitate discussions on program improvement. Program goals, outcomes, and results are evaluated during regular program reviews by external reviewers. Assessment results that span entire schools are shared with school faculty, who discuss what improvements may be needed. Institutional assessments are shared in committees, general faculty meetings, and board meetings, as well as electronically with all faculty. Through an electronic recording system, all assessment information is available for review by the Office of Institutional Assessment, the deans, the provost, and our external accreditors. Highlights of assessment results and improvement initiatives are shared on the university's assessment website, and more details are available on request.

At Andrews University, the systematic collection and analysis of data on student learning in order to improve the instructional experience is part of our routine practice. Andrews believes that assessment is an important part of good teaching and learning. Assessment results substantiate the quality of an Andrews education so that students, parents, employers, and other stakeholders can feel assured that their investment in the institution is of value.

Bibliography