

A utilization-focused approach to developing, mapping, and assessing student learning outcomes in college foreign language programs



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About this module

College foreign language educators and administrators are increasingly being asked to undertake student learning outcomes (SLOs) assessment, primarily due to regional accreditors' emphasis on outcomes-based accountability. Accreditation requirements in higher education emphasize the process of assessment—that is, evidence that academic and service programs have a *system* of establishing student learning outcomes, gathering data on student achievement, and using that data to improve curricula and pedagogy. Regional accreditors expect faculty and staff to proactively and collectively integrate assessment into daily program operations and to engage continuously in a meaningful, self-regulated inquiry of student learning.



About this module

Overall, the aim of this set of learning modules is to help FL educators plan, implement, and use outcomes assessment in tertiary foreign language programs. More specifically, the modules aid educators in developing a feasible, useful, and meaningful assessment plan, one that will help people actually use assessment findings toward program understanding, decision-making, and educational improvement.

How to use the modules

Because outcomes assessment should be a collective endeavor, we encourage you to go through each module together with your colleagues. The module includes tasks and resources that will help facilitate your outcomes assessment planning.

A blue scroll icon with the text 'TASK #' inside.

TASK #

→ Work on the questions with your colleagues.

A white scroll icon with the text 'RESOURCE' inside.

RESOURCE

→ If you see this icon, access the resources for further information and examples by clicking on the link provided.



Menu

Module I: Understanding utilization-focused outcomes assessment

Module II: Developing meaningful student learning outcomes

Module III: Mapping outcomes to the curriculum

Module IV: Assessing outcomes and utilizing findings

Module V: Reflecting on assessment

