



## 2008-2009 Assessment Plan Report

### **PROGRAM ASSESSMENT REPORT AY 2008-2009**

**Report Date:** Summer 2009

**School/College:** School of Education

**Department/Program:** Department of Leadership Studies/Administrative Preliminary Credential

**Person completing the Report:** Dr. Christopher Thomas

1. **Overview Statement:** Briefly summarize the assessment activities that were undertaken this academic year, indicating:

- a. which program learning outcomes were assessed this year.

There were specific learning outcomes that we had planned to address this year, but as we began to look at the overall program it made more sense to focus our attention on doing revisions in the curriculum to better meet the standards and the needs of our students. Our work focused on looking at the California State Standards and then designing or revising courses to meet those standards.

- b. who in your department/program was involved in the assessment of the above learning outcomes

Organization & Leadership faculty and staff.

2. **Please Answer the Following Questions for Each of the Student Outcomes Assessed:**

- a. **What did you do?**

Describe clearly and concisely how you assessed the learning outcomes that were evaluated this year (e.g., measures, research methods, etc.). [please use bullet points to answer this question]

The following steps were taken this past year:

- Reviewed all curriculum in relation to California State Standards and student learning outcomes
- It became apparent in this review that there were gaps in meeting both the California State Standards and how we were assessing student learning outcomes
- Based on this we moved to rethink how the program was administered as well as when, where, and how student learning should be assessed in the program.
- We also thought about the students we are working with to better support



## 2008-2009 Assessment Plan Report

their needs and schedules. How can we best provide them the necessary content and practice in the program?

- After this review process we began to create courses that would better meet the needs of our students and meet the State Standards.
- A program plan was created to illustrate the coursework and flow of the program. At the same time we worked to create syllabi for the new courses we were establishing in the program.
- This process has not been completed as of yet. We prioritized the Clear Credential work first and will be submitting these curriculum changes this Fall
- Outside of this work we have created a pre/post survey for our students entering into our program to assess their own perceived learning growth on the California State Standards.

### **b. What did the faculty in the department or program learn?**

Summarize your findings and conclusions as a result of the assessment indicating strengths and weaknesses in student learning demonstrated by this assessment.

What we have learned in our review is that while our program covers each of the California State Standards we can do a better job of creating a program that better links student content learning with student application of the content in practice. We also felt that after talking with students that the flow of our courses could be more interconnected so that program builds on prior learning in each class.

### **c. What will be done differently as a result of what was learned?**

Discuss how courses and/or curricula will be changed to improve student learning as a result of the assessment. Include a discussion of how the faculty will help students overcome their weaknesses and improve their strengths.

As noted above we have already begun revising our curriculum and overall program plan to address our findings. Our changes are in the preliminary stages, but bulleted out below are our proposed changes:

- Program will shift to a cohort model that builds on student learning each semester
- Fieldwork component will be tied directly to course content they are currently doing
- Assessment for courses will be tied to both content in the classroom and practical application in their fieldwork
- A final culminating project demonstrating overall program learning will be incorporated. Project will require both knowledge of content as well as examples of how work was applied in the field



## 2008-2009 Assessment Plan Report

3. **Attach a copy of the components of the department/program assessment plan that have been modified since its initial submission:**
  - a. Program Mission
  - b. Program Learning Goals
  - c. Program Learning Outcomes
  - d. Program Learning Rubrics aligned with outcomes
  - e. Curriculum map that shows the courses that pertain to the outcome