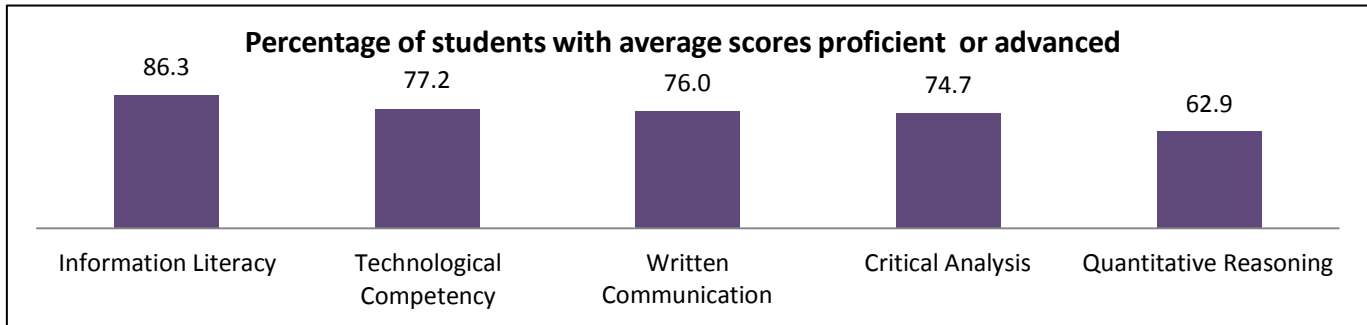


News Brief - Fall 2014

GENERAL EDUCATION COMPETENCIES ASSESSMENT RESULTS CYCLE B

During the fall 2013 and spring 2014 semesters, General Education courses in the Humanities and Mathematics assessed the core competencies using a scale from 0 to 3. Average scores above 1.5 were considered to be "proficient." As indicated in the chart below, student performance was strongest with information literacy and weakest with quantitative reasoning.



PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS FROM ASSESSMENT RESULTS

In addition to receiving the results for each class, faculty reported on actions that will be taken over the next three years to improve student learning in each of the competencies. Here are a few examples provided by faculty for each competency:

Critical Analysis & Reasoning

- Develop an activity to help students practice interpreting historical sources.
- Use an activity to improve proficiency on drawing conclusions.

Information Literacy

- [Utilize] short methodological assignments or demonstrations in class.
- [Have] workshops on Information Literacy through the library or the WRLC to improve proficiency on access, ethics and use.

Technological Competency

- Incorporate technology into assignments.
- Use database material from library, rather than online material.

Written Communication

- Expand lessons on plagiarism and proper citation.
- [Provide] more clarification and guidance of the written assignments to increase the percentage of advanced competency and to help underperforming students move to an upper level.

Quantitative Reasoning

- Spend time teaching students how to read math/science books and how to get the most out of diagrams and tables.
- Dedicate time to learning "how to learn" instead of just answering homework questions.

ADDITIONAL GENERAL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT INFORMATION:

Number of students assessed in 2013-14: 7461

Number of courses included in analysis: 93

Number of course sections included in analysis: 449

MORE GENERAL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

General Education data collection for **CYCLE C** has started. This includes courses in the Social Sciences and Sciences. Faculty who need to enter the data can go to: <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/assessge>.

Any problems with accessing the data entry site?
Contact Outcomes@montgomerycollege.edu

COMMON QUESTION: Aren't Program Assessment and College Area Review the same thing?
ANSWER: They are not the same. See table below for differences

	Program Assessment	College Area Review
Focus	To examine if students are achieving the program's student learning outcomes	This process requires administrative areas, disciplines, and programs to examine their resources and processes to guide future planning.
Timing	Once every 3 years	Once every 5 years
Participants	Degree programs only	All disciplines and administrative areas

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT ASSESSMENT?

TWO ONLINE RESOURCES

<http://www.learningoutcomesassessment.org/>
<http://assessmentcommons.org/>

TWO UPCOMING ASSESSMENT CONFERENCES in 2015

The Community College Conference on Learning Assessment – February 22-24, 2015
<http://wp.valenciacollege.edu/learningassessment/>

Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education – June 1-3, 2015
<http://aalhe.org/>

QUESTIONS ABOUT ASSESSMENT?

Contact Cassandra Jones, the new Director of Assessment at Montgomery College.
Phone: 240-567-4248
Email: Cassandra.jones@montgomerycollege.edu