

Measures in Planning and Self Study Transcript

Hello everyone. In this video tutorial, we will talk a little bit more about how you can add your measures into Planning and Self-Study.

As a refresher, Planning and Self-Study is the assessment software that the University of Hartford uses to collect all of its assessment data across institution. It just makes it easier for collecting evidence for when we have regional accreditation reports and it just makes it easier to track the process from one school to the next to make sure that we're all on the same page.

So, in any case, we have a "Test major" set up over here. This is kind of a fake major that we're going to use for this tutorial. What we're going to do is we're going to pretend that we already have chosen a project that we would like to implement for our assessment for the year 2022-23. And what we're going to do is click on 2022-23 program assessment plan.

You may or may not see the exact kind of homepage depending on what you are allowed to see in Planning and Self-Study. But if you are asked to do assessment for your major, you should be able to scroll down at some point and see kind of like a box that's set up like this where you have the major name, you have the assessment plan, you can see kind of a bar sometimes about how the program is doing. There should be this section over here that says "Add Mission", "Outcomes", "Create Map", "Edit map"... So, we want to look into this section.

What we're going to do is click on 2022-23 Program Assessment Plan. So again, you want to click on the assessment plan for the given academic year that you're working from. And we see here that we already have two test program learning outcomes. Well, I will clarify. We have one program learning outcome over here. And then we have one success outcome here. So, the learning outcome is the one that we're really going to be concerned with--that's kind of where we measure how students are learning and the success outcome could be something like that could be interesting as well. So, for example, exam pass rates are any information about licensure rates, or how students are performing on community service, things like that. So, for this example, we're going to focus on the learning outcomes. And what we'll do is you can see that we already have some test measures already set up. So, what you can do is we are going to pretend that we're starting from scratch and we are just going to create a new project to measure the specific learning outcome.

We're going to click on new measure. And you'll be taken to this page. From here, you would go to the drop-down menu, and you'll see a variety of direct assessments. So, direct assessments are assessments that directly look at how students are learning based off of their assignments. And we also see indirect assessments which kind of look at information that could share some information about how students are learning but it's not a direct reflection of it. So those would include focus groups, interviews, surveys, completion rates, course evaluation, things like that.

We typically encourage you to try to do direct assessments, though you're welcome to do indirect assessments as well. But direct assessments should be your priority.

So, we'll use an assignment for this example. And what we will do is we will say that this assignment is in EDH 501 Current Issues. And we're going to give it a title. So, we're going to say "Paper on Current Issues". If you're using Student Learning and Licensure, sometimes you can align results. However, at this point, a lot of programs at the University of Hartford are not using Student Learning and Licensure yet, so we will skip this step.

And here we could write a target. So, we could write "For this assignment, we hope that students will score a Proficient or higher".

For the description, we can say "This assignments is a new assignment in EDH 501. We would like to see how students are performing."

So, I would always encourage you to write a little description whenever you were writing a measure just because this description will either give you in the future an idea of what happened in the past (so a clear vision of historical records). It will also be really helpful for example, if you end up being hired and working at for example, the White House, or Amazon, or Google or something, and we have to have a new person to replace you in assessment. This description box will be really helpful for them to look back and be like okay, like this is the kind of assessments that took place in the past.

So, from here what you would do is you could attach description documents, and here you could kind of upload anything from instructions or just some general information about the assignment. Again, this is just really good for historical records. So, either you in the future or faculty in the future can look back and learn a little bit more about this assignment.

And then from here, you can click on the purple button in the top right corner right here. And you'll have a pop-up window. This pop-up window will ask you whether you want to manage results. And what this is basically asking you is whether you want to add to your results now or later.

So, if you were ready to put in your results right away, you would click on the purple yes manage results now button. However, if you are not ready to put in your results because you are still collecting information, you'd say no continue later and it'll be taken back to the screen. In the next video, we will cover how you can add results into Planning and Self-Study and how you would submit your academic assessment report. into the software. If you have any questions about measures in the assessment plan for Planning and Self-Study, please reach out to the Office of Institutional Effectiveness.