

Grades & Program Assessment

Why are course grades insufficient for Program Assessment?

- Course grades reflect what students have achieved in a single course
- Grades are a composite of a student's achievement of course outcomes
- Grades reflect the evaluation practices, policies, and criteria of individual instructors
- Faculty teaching the same course may teach different material
- Faculty teaching the same course may emphasize different course objectives

What grades might be useable for Program Assessment?

- Grades on a single item or series of items from an exam or quiz directly linked to a program objective and that all students answer
- Grades on an assignment directly linked to a program goal and completed by all students
- Grades based on the same grading standards and criteria across all faculty and course offerings (with confirmed inter-rater reliability)
- Grades supported by or verified using other evidence
- Grades that reflect the consensus of multiple faculty