

2017 Assessment Grant Applications

1. First and Last Name

Kelly Wood

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3. Campus Phone

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4. Campus Location/Address

University Hall 205

5. College

COAL

6. Department and Program

Communications, BS in Com Studies

7. Have you received written approval from your department head or dean?

My Department Head has approved this proposal.

8. Will your program, department, or college support this project in any way?

No

9. What is the title of your proposal?

Comparing student learning in face-to-face and online programs

10. Eligible Project

Compare student learning in face-to-face and online courses.

11. What do you plan to purchase or pay for?

We would like the funds to be transferred to the department of communication. We will use it to pay for a room in the PSU and for a lunch with afternoon snack. We have 6 faculty reviewers and one external reviewer from another institution. a. Room labor and equipment \$65 b. Lunch for 7, 13.50 = \$94.50 c. PM snack = \$24.00 d. External reviewer, mileage reimbursement for trip to campus, 850 miles (approx) X .37/mile = \$314

12. What contributions will this work have on enhancing student learning?

We want dedicated time to review student work that's regularly collected in our COM 499 assessment portfolio. The last time we did a review, we changed the wording of one of our learning outcomes and have been more

intentional to create assignments that help students meet the goals. We need to review the impact of those changes on student work. And, we have had an online BS in Communication Studies for about four years now and we need to assess the learning outcomes for those students compared to our residential students. Reviewing their work can help us make changes to curriculum/assignments to improve their outcomes.

We need to review student work, discuss their performance, and identify areas in the online courses where we can support student learning in new ways. At the same time, we need to ensure that our seated students are meeting the outcomes as well. Spending a full day reviewing the work, talking as colleagues, and developing a set of recommendations to the full faculty are our goals.

13. What is your time frame for the proposed project?

We plan to meet for a full day, or two half days in late July, early August to complete this work. Then we will report to the communication department faculty meeting in early fall semester.

14. How will the results of this project be used for program improvement?

We will report our findings at a fall faculty meeting and decide at that point how to move forward. This work will dovetail nicely with a post hoc committee beginning this fall to work on revising our BS/BA in Communication program. So our assessment work should inform that committee work. We may also decide to update the COM 499 requirement in terms of work submitted.

Our main goal is to review work by students in the online vs. seated courses to determine if they are meeting equivalent outcomes. We anticipate there will be differences, but are not yet sure how those will be manifested in student work.

15. Do you agree to write a brief report by the end of this fiscal year (June 30, 2018)?

Yes

16. Do you agree to share the funded project at the time of its completion?

Yes

17. How do you plan to show evidence of student learning?

We will evaluate and score student responses (using a basic rubric) to questions about how a specific assignment meets a learning outcome. Those scores will be summed across seated vs. online students. We will also demonstrate learning through a qualitative analysis of student work submitted to identify themes of assignment types submitted, quality of work, and how student work actually reflects the outcome is intended for.