

SLOAC ACADEMY: UNLEASHING THE POWER OF ASSESSING STUDENT LEARNING

To earn a certificate of completion, commit to participate in all three workshops. Building on the preceding one, each workshop is two hours, taking place on flex days in the spring semester.

T.J. Marchese claims, "Assessment per se guarantees nothing by way of improvement, no more than a thermometer cures a fever." True.

Without a concerted effort to use the instrument effectively and act on the results, its power is neutralized.

Similarly, the assessment of student learning outcomes (SLOs) has enormous potential. Through this workshop series, develop a foundational knowledge to harness the power of SLOs and assessment to strengthen teaching and learning. Be empowered to work with your colleagues in articulating the core knowledge/ skills/ attitudes students attain in a given course, how student work is evaluated, and how to act on a collective understanding of the results. Using the assessment of SLOs as a means to reflect on our teaching not only will keep our instruction fresh but also can liven up discussions with our colleagues about what we love most: helping students to learn and achieve their educational goals.

For more information, please contact Karen Wong at <u>wongk@smccd.edu</u> or 650.738.4369.

Friday, Jan.10: Crafting Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

Participants will be able to: (a) determine how to put a "culture of intentionality" into practice regarding SLOs and assessment, (b) explain how to create SLOs, and (c) critique existing SLOs.

Thursday, March 5: Designing Assessment Plans to Strengthen Student Learning

Participants will be able to: (a) create or refine an assignment that can be used for both grading and assessment, (b) draft an assessment plan, and (c) critique an assessment plan.

Friday, March 27: Analyzing and Acting on Assessment Results

Participants will be able to: (a) configure their results in ways that lend themselves to analysis and dialogue, (b) make meaning from assessment results, and (c) take action as appropriate from the results. (Note: The workshop will take place at College of San Mateo since March 27 is a joint flex day.)