Annual Academic Program Assessment Plan

Academic Program:	American Sign Language Certificate of Completion
Academic Program Division:	Communication and Fine Arts
Program Responsible Person:	Ms. Cindy Frank, Instructor and Program Coordinator
Assessment Team Member/s:	Ms. Cindy Frank, Instructor and Program Coordinator
Date Submitted:	Fall 2008
College Strategic Plan Goals:	1. Improve student success in program completion and graduation rates. 2. Ensure institutional excellence in teaching, programs and services. 3. Embrace our college's many communities and respond to their diverse needs.
Division Mission:	*To join with the other academic divisions, enrich all areas of learning, and nurture the whole person, the Mission of the Communications and Fine Arts Division is to provide opportunities for students to* • Improve the effectiveness of oral, written and artistic communication; • Enhance creativity and personal expression; • Develop habits of critical thinking, inquiry, self-discovery, and self-assessment; • Examine the social and cultural milieu and one's place in the public life; Appreciate the arts and understand the value of diversity.
Program Mission:	"The mission of the Western Nevada College American Sign Language Certificate of Completion Program is to provide quality education to students, thus developing their comprehensive expressive/receptive skills in American Sign Language, fingerspelling fluency and general knowledge of deafness. Students are provided a linguistic foundation in which to enter numerous high-demand professional fields that provide services to deaf or hard of hearing people."

This form allows all groups engaged in the on-going assessment process at WNC to document their assessment activities. The form includes a report on the previous year's assessment project and a plan for the coming year's project. Those responsible for annual assessment of academic programs are required to complete an assessment of at least one program outcome or student learning outcome each year but may assess more than one outcome if they choose. (Copy and paste the tables if more than one outcome is assessed.)

Completed assessment plans are to be electronically submitted to Catherine Boedenauer in IR (boedenau@wnc.edu) by October 1, 2008 for posting on the assessment Web site.

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Assessment Plan

Academic Year: 2008-2009

Outcome #1

Program Goal:	1. Apply for Grant to: increase student enrollment, strengthen curriculum through technology, provide professional development for instructors, and increase opportunities for students to expand and apply their American Sign Language skills (e.g. workshops, mentoring, trainings). 2. Continue to clearly define the instructional material and content to be used in each level of ASL of ASL and related courses.
Outcome:	1. Increased skill level of teachers and students in the use of American Sign Language and its Deaf Culture/History. 2. Increased opportunity for employment by achieving professional level of sign language fluency required by law and employers. 3. Clearly outlined course content, providing students with appropriate and effective scaffold learning and consistency among instructors.
Assessment Methods and Criteria for Success:	1. Receive outcome of Grant submitted in April of 2009. 2. Verify that each required certificate course is clearly outlined and provided in comprehensive form to each instructor. 3. Provide Professional Development documentation.
Planned Use of Results:	1. Share results with college administrators, teachers and students. 2. Share results with School Districts, Nevada Dept. of Education, the Nevada Association of the Deaf and the Nevada Communication Access Council. 3. Examine data to continue, adjust and expand aforementioned goals.

Program Goal: What program goal will drive the assessment activities this coming year? This goal is a statement of what the program wants to accomplish or become over the next several years in terms of enrollment, faculty development, service, or an academic and co-curricular initiative.

Outcome: Relating to the stated program goal, which program or student learning outcome will be the focus for this year's assessment project? For student learning outcomes, in which courses will the outcome be addressed?

Assessment Methods and Criteria for Success: Describe the planned assessment methods and the criteria that will be used to determine success. When assessing student learning outcomes, plan to use at least one direct method for assessment. Direct methods are processes employed to assess student learning by requiring students to demonstrate knowledge and skills directly. Objective tests, essays, presentations, portfolios, performances, and classroom assignments are examples.

Planned Use of Results: With whom and how will the results be shared? How will the results be used to improve student learning or program effectiveness?