Assessment Narrative for the 17-18 Academic Narrative

As part of the larger OFYE UNIV 100 Assessment plan the Office of First Year Experience set out to assess Information Literacy in both fall 2017 and spring 2018. Because we have not conducted assessments of this nature in the past, we did not set a goal to be reached this year, rather we intend to use this year's data as a benchmark for the future.

To begin our assessment, we designed a rubric that set out four basic categories a student needed to master in order for that to be deemed informationally literate. We determined a student should be able to assess what information is needed for a particular project. They should know where and how to find that information either in the library or from online resources. Once they have gathered information, they should be able to evaluate that information and its source critically. Finally, they should know how to use that information in an ethical manner.

We elected to assess this student learning outcome with a pre/post test. Each test was ten multiple choice questions with each one was tied directly to a category on the rubric. Each category was addressed by at least two questions.

The pretest was administered in September of 2017 to 782 students or approximately 23% of UNIV 100 students who began the course. The average student logged three correct answers on the pretest and 2% of students logged a 'passing' grade --a passing grade is considered 70% or higher.

	Fall 17 Pre Test Number of Correct Responses out of 10										
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
#	23	69	144	168	182	119	62	13	2	0	0	782
%	3	9	18	22	23	15	8	2	0	0	0	100

The post test was administered in early November to 707 students or approximately 22% of UNIV 100 students who completed the course. The average student logged four correct answers on the post test and 10% of students logged a 'passing' grade.

	Fall 17 Post Test Number of Correct Responses out of 10										
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
#	18	26	63	122	172	140	95	52	18	1	0	707
%	3	3	9	17	24	20	13	7	3	0	0	99

As a follow-up, we replicated our assessment procedure in the spring 18 semester where UNIV 100 classes are exclusively led by OFYE staff.

We found very similar results. In the pretest the average student logged three correct answers and 3% logged a 'passing' grade --a passing grade is considered 70% or higher..

	Spring 18 Pre Test Number of Correct Responses out of 10										
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
#	5	7	17	18	25	16	7	1	2	0	0	98
%	5	7	17	18	25	16	7	1	2	0	0	98

And in the post test the average student logged four correct answers and 8% logged a passing grade. While there was clear improvement from one test to the next, it was not enough to make the claim we are meeting the needs of our students.

	Spring 18 Pre Test Number of Correct Responses out of 10										
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
#	0	5	10	16	20	15	14	5	1	1	0	87
%	0	6	11	17	23	17	16	6	1	1	0	98

Based on these results, we intend to take the following steps:

- We are going to specifically train the OFYE staff in the content we expect them to present to students.
- We are going to organize UNIV 100 in such a way that one of our trained staff members visits every section of UNIV 100 during the semester to present specific content that specifically address these deficiencies.
- We are going to refine our data collection process so we can drill down on particular questions to identify where exactly our students are deficient.
- We are going to reach out to other departments through the university's General Education Committee to ensure this content is reinforced and assessed after the freshman experience comes to a close.

We intend to reassess our new students in the fall 18 semester with similar methods, under similar conditions in order to build a corpus of data that will guide as we move forward.