University of Utah Department of Family and Consumer Studies

Undergraduate Major: Family, Community, and Human Development

Programmatic Expected Learning Outcomes and Assessment Guidelines

**Program Purpose**

The aim of the Expected Learning Outcomes (ELOs) described below is to provide clarity and accountability for both faculty members and students with respect to the goals and outcomes of the undergraduate major in Family, Community, and Human Development. ELOs can be useful in constructing the overall curriculum as well as improving it.

**Learning Outcomes & Assessments**

1. Demonstrate a foundational understanding of the physical, cognitive and socioemotional realms of human development at key stages of the life course
   1. Assessment: Include 4-5 questions on developmental processes at multiple stages in an exam taken in FCS 1500, which is required of all students majoring in our department
2. Demonstrate a foundational understanding of diverse family forms and how family members develop and maintain interpersonal relationships within and across generations
   1. Assessment: Include 4-5 questions on family relationships and diversity in an exam taken in FCS 2400, which is required of all students majoring in our department
3. Demonstrate an ability to describe, understand, and analyze how individuals and households make decisions regarding the allocation of time, money and other human resources
   1. Assessment: Include 4-5 questions on resource utilization in an exam taken in either FCS 3450 or FCS 3500 (all students majoring in our department must take one of these classes)
4. Demonstrate a basic understanding of how scientific knowledge is generated and evaluated within the disciplines represented in our department
   1. Assessment: Include 4-5 questions on research methods in an exam taken in FCS 3200, which is required of all students majoring in our department.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the mutual and interconnected influences among individuals, families and the communities in which they live
   1. Assessment: Review of a written assignment completed in each of the 10 courses in our FCS curriculum designated by our department as fulfilling our community-focused core requirement (all students majoring in our department must take at least one of these classes) to assess students’ ability to express in writing their understanding of the connections among community, families and individuals

**Assessment Team**

A 3-member committee of faculty will be formed to meet in May of each year to review student performance on a subset of our 5 learning outcomes. This committee will evaluate student success in meeting the criteria based on performance on the questions developed to assess the first four learning outcomes, and a rubric to be developed for the assessment linked to our final learning outcome. A report including recommendations for action will be generated by this committee and presented to the department chair and full faculty for their review.

**Assessment Reporting Line**

After an opportunity to provide input is afforded to the entire faculty, the department chair will submit the report to the CSBS dean along with a statement of proposed actions stemming from the recommendations included within the report and, where appropriate, feedback from the full faculty.