

Assessment Faculty Fellows, Academic Year 2023-24

Program-level and Common Curriculum Opportunities

Assessment Faculty Fellows will play a central role in capacity building and direct faculty support related to learning outcomes and assessment at the University of Connecticut. The University of Connecticut is currently building infrastructure for and resources toward creating a sustainable culture of assessment, with a specific focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion. The University aims to develop this culture across academic programs and throughout the Common Curriculum.

For the academic year 2023-24, three fellow positions will be available: 1 for the new Common Curriculum and 2 for academic programs. The Common Curriculum fellow will work directly with faculty who teach within the Common Curriculum, the Common Curriculum Committee, and the Common Curriculum faculty navigators to align assessment activities with the curriculum's learning objectives. The academic program fellows will serve as a resource to support development of meaningful and measurable program-level student learning objectives, curricular maps, and assessment plans, while promoting assessment innovation and transformation.

These fellowships provide an opportunity for interested faculty to strengthen their skills in team-management, to deepen their expertise in this area of teaching and learning, and to participate in developing a purposeful culture of assessment at an institutional level. Fellows will have support for professional development during the fellowship, with the aim of deepening the skills related to assessment and learning objective development at the University.

Assessment Faculty Fellow: Description and Role

The Assessment Faculty Fellow is to support the Executive Director of Learning Initiatives & Program Assessment and the Common Curriculum Committee with outreach and support through consultations, workshops, and training for academic programs and Common Curriculum faculty. For the academic program fellows, most work will involve partnering with a small set of academic units who will be working on learning outcomes for their undergraduate program(s), with the option to offer wider workshops and trainings to faculty outside of these units. Work done by the academic program fellows will focus on:

- Development or refinement of learning objectives
- Development of curricular maps
- Aligning assessment measures from courses to learning objectives
- Supporting best practice in relation to equity and inclusion in the development of learning objectives, outcomes, and assessment
- Analyzing assessment results through quality improvement and an equity and inclusion lenses.

Common Curriculum Assessment Fellow: Description and Role

For the Common Curriculum fellow, most work will involve partnering with faculty teaching and reviewing Common Curriculum courses. Work done by the Common Curriculum fellow will focus on:

- Reviewing syllabi for courses being proposed for the Common Curriculum
- Aligning course-level learning objectives with Common Curriculum learning objectives
- Aligning assessment measures from courses to course-level learning objectives
- Aligning assessment measures from courses to Common Curriculum learning objectives
- Supporting best practice in relation to equity and inclusion in the development of learning objectives, outcomes, and assessment

For both fellows options, the fellows will participate in regular meetings with the Executive Director of Learning Initiatives & Program Assessment and other relevant staff to work collaboratively on planning and to share progress and impact. Program-level fellows will also serve as co-chairs of the University Student Learning Assessment Committee. The fellows will have the option to develop a specific project related to learning outcomes and assessment that they would like to work on throughout the duration of their fellowship.

The hourly commitment may vary throughout the year, but the expectation is that each fellow will commit an average of 10 hours a week to this work. Each fellow will take on the role for a full academic year (with summer support to prepare for the upcoming academic year), with the possibility of renewing for a second year.

Fellowship Support

Each fellow will receive one course buyout per semester (two in total across the academic year) to support the time commitment of the work associated with the role. Each fellow will also receive summer salary of \$5,000 for summer 2023 to allow for preparation time ahead of the academic year related to the fellowship. Each fellow will also be provided with \$2,000 of professional development support, intended for activities that will benefit the fellowship (*e.g.*, participating in conferences or workshops related to assessment).

Fellows would be expected to attend the Assessment Institute on Wednesday, May 10, 2023. The fellowship period would run from May 23, 2023, through to May 22, 2024, with preparation effort (meetings with relevant professional staff, professional development activities) occurring during the summer period.

Application Process

Applicants should be current full-time faculty members at the University (tenured, tenure track, and CIRE faculty are all welcome to apply). To apply, you should submit a letter of interest (no more than three pages, single spaced) addressing the following questions:

- 1) For which fellowship position(s) would you like to be considered, and why?
- 2) What is your interest in the assessment of student learning and program-level/Common Curriculum assessment?
- 3) What would you offer as a fellow given your experience and expertise?
- 4) What would you hope to learn or gain through the fellow experience?
- 5) Beyond this fellowship, what are some of the long-term possibilities for the work you would like to engage in related to learning outcomes and assessment?
- 6) What are some potential indicators of success for your participation in this program?

Each application should also be accompanied by a letter of support from the department head (or dean for non-departmentalized schools) indicating their support for the applicant serving as an Assessment Faculty Fellow in academic year 2023-24. The name of the faculty member who is applying should be included on letters of support.

Both the nominee's letter of interest and the letter of support can be emailed to: assessment@uconn.edu. Please put "Faculty Fellows" in the email subject line.

Please email Lauren Schlesselman at assessment@uconn.edu with any questions about the Faculty Fellows position or the application process.

Deadline for applications: January 25, 2023

Decisions communicated by February 10, 2023