

ASSESSMENT WEBSITE INFORMATION

College: Education

Degree Program: Exercise Science BS

Chair/Director: Jim Stillwell/Marla Graves

DATA SAY:

When the Exercise Science Assessment Committee examined the curriculum map for the BS in Exercise Science Program, it was clear that there is no capstone assessment that gauges the amount of learning that has taken place in the major courses. Though students clearly demonstrate comprehension of knowledge and skills in the senior Practicum course ES 4843, that class currently has no knowledge-based test. The committee has decided to incorporate a comprehensive knowledge-based, pre/post-test, termed the Comprehensive Exercise Science Examination [CESE] to be used beginning with the 2012-2013 academic year. Exercise Science students are required to follow a course sequence and enroll in specific classes the fall and spring of their junior and senior years.

The pre-test will be conducted Fall 2012 in the junior level class ES 3653 Techniques of Aerobic Conditioning at the beginning of the semester (within the first two weeks of class). The post-test will be conducted Spring 2014 in the senior capstone course, ES 4843 Practicum/Pre-internship the last week of the semester

SO WHAT:

Because Exercise Science students are not required to pass a national board certification or to gain licensure to practice as an exercise specialist, there must be some measure of the knowledge that is gained in the curriculum, as a whole, to ensure students are learning and retaining content that will allow them to become certified through various national certifying bodies, such as the American College of Sports Medicine [ACSM] and the National Strength and Conditioning Association [NSCA]. These certifications significantly improve students' marketability.

HOW WE CHANGED:

We are currently collecting questions to develop the CESE. All HPESS faculty who teach exercise science classes are in the process of submitting questions for the exam. Questions are to be based on content delivered within each course, respectively. Questions submitted will be reviewed by the Exercise Science Assessment Committee in August 2012. Those questions that reflect knowledge that is required for ACSM and NSCA certifications will be the focus of the exam.



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WHAT WE GOT:

The CESE will be administered initially (pre-test) Fall 2012 in ES 3653 Techniques of Aerobics, one of the first courses all Exercise Science juniors are required to take at program entry. The CESE will be administered a second time (post-test) Spring 2014 in ES 4843 Practicum/Pre-internship. This assessment will provide the data necessary to gage the knowledge and skills that students have retained from their two years of course work. This data will provide valuable insight regarding a student's potential ability to pass a national certification exam.

