# LEARNING TO ASSESS

Fall 2015

# **Critical Thinking**

Longitudinal Study



During Fall 2013 Learning Week, we administered the Critical Thinking Assessment Test (CAT) for the third time. CAT was developed by Tennessee Tech University as part of an NSF grant. CAT is a 15question assessment that requires written responses and measures two major CT skill sets. Incoming freshman student athletes were selected as a cohort for the longitudinal study of our general education program. Approximately 98 student athletes took the pretest. Spring 2015 was the fourth semester at PVCC for the cohort. Out of 39 students still enrolled at PVCC during the Spring 2015 semester, 20 students from baseball, softball, and track & field completed the CAT post-test. Faculty scored the CAT tests on May 12, 2015. Tennessee Tech uses a random sample of CAT scores from PVCC to verify scoring accuracy.



#### Tips

<u>**Plan:</u>** Identify your assessment project and complete part one of the form.</u>



Keep Adjuncts in the Loop: Consider developing a common assessment for a course with multiple sections. Identify a team leader and involve other faculty.

### Announcement

<u>HLC Accreditation Affirmed:</u> The evaluators identified a number of strengths, including the college's assessment of student learning outcomes, commitment to diversity, and the integration of the strategic planning process. Dr. Linduska, visiting team chair, stated that the assessment process is clearly faculty driven and owned. She also pointed out that the assessment process at PVCC should serve as a model for other colleges.





#### Your AAT Co-Chairs are wondering...

How are you reinforcing critical thinking skills? Do you have an assignment or activity that measures critical thinking? What challenges do your students have with the process of critical thinking?

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## Summary of GEA Results

- The number of class sections increased by 34% from the previous year.
- The number of Honors sections increased by 50% and online sections increased by 3%
- Adjunct participation remains low.
- Approximately 67% of Full-Time Faculty entered scores for GEA rubrics in 2014-2015.
- Scores were entered for the rubrics 468 times during 2014-2015.

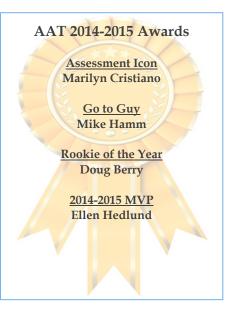
Division/Department	Critical Reading	Critical Thinking	Global Awareness	Information Literacy	Oral Communication	Problem Solving	Technology	Written Communication	2014-2015 TOTAL	2013-2014 TOTAL	% Change
Behavioral Science	8	2	1	5	3	0	0	4	23	9	155.56%
Business/Info Technology	0	3	2	4	1	7	39	2	58	63	-7.94%
Communication/Humanities	22	5	1	0	19	4	0	5	56	81	-30.86%
Counseling and Personal Dev	3	2	1	3	6	1	0	3	19	7	171.43%
English	4	3	1	7	2	2	2	16	37	59	-37.29%
Fine and Performing Arts	3	14	2	6	5	5	23	10	68	28	142.86%
Health and Exercise Science	10	15	6	8	1	8	3	8	59	38	55.26%
Library	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	4	-25%
Mathematics	0	2	0	0	0	58	1	0	61	75	-18.67%
Out Of Class	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	5	-60%
Science	3	16	0	4	7	16	7	11	64	41	56.1%
Social Science	1	1	4	4	4	0	4	0	18	18	0%
Total	54	64	18	42	48	101	79	62	468	428	9.35%

Participation by Division Results for Fall 2014 - Spring 2015

	GEA Participation					
Term	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-2015		
Total						
Faculty	110	156	117	121		
Total						
Sections	197	288	229	348		

GEA Sections by Class Format					
Format	2013-2014	2014-2015			
In-Person	183	281			
Online	34	48			
Hybrid	11	17			
Learning Community	0	2			
Honors	11	22			

#### Academic Assessment Team (AAT)



# Thank you to our 2015-2016 AAT members for their continued support and commitment to assessment!

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Division AAT Reps English: Stacey Ranik Math: Mike Hamm Library: Lili Kang Business: Raji Lauffer Counseling: Jim Rubin Health: Tatum Voeller

Com & Hum: Marilyn Cristiano Science: Jenny Weitz Behavioral Sciences: Doug Berry Social Sciences: Meggin Kirk Fine Arts: Keith Kelly

VP of Academic Affairs: Mary Lou Mosley Dean of Academic Affairs: Denise Dijianfillippo Institutional Effectiveness: John Snelling Out of Class Assessment Team Chair: Ellen Hedlund

<u>Division AAT Chairs:</u> Co-Chair: Christine Tabone Co-Chair: Felicia Ramirez

For more information about assessment visit the Assessment of Learning website http://www.pvc.maricopa.edu/AL