

## Examples of Direct and Indirect Measures of Student Learning

**Direct assessment:** Any method of collecting data that requires students to *demonstrate* a knowledge, skill, or behavior.

**Indirect assessment:** Any method of collecting data that requires *reflection* on student learning, skills, or behaviors, rather than a demonstration of it.

	Direct Measures	Indirect Measures
<b>Course</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course and homework assignments</li> <li>• Exams and quizzes</li> <li>• Term papers and reports</li> <li>• Observations of field work, internship performance, service learning, or clinical experiences</li> <li>• Research projects</li> <li>• Class discussion participation</li> <li>• Rubric scores for writing, oral presentations, and performances</li> <li>• Artistic performances and products</li> <li>• Grades that are based on explicit criteria related to clear learning goals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course evaluation</li> <li>• Percent of class time spent in active learning</li> <li>• Number of student hours spent on service learning</li> <li>• Number of student hours spent on homework</li> <li>• Number of student hours spent at intellectual or cultural activities related to the course</li> <li>• Grades that are not based on explicit criteria related to clear learning goals</li> </ul>
<b>Program</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capstone experiences (research papers, theses, presentations, etc.) scored with a rubric</li> <li>• Other written work, performances, or presentations scored with a rubric*</li> <li>• Portfolios of student work*</li> <li>• Pass rates or scores on licensure, certification, or subject area tests</li> <li>• Scores of locally designed tests in key courses, qualifying exams, or comprehensive exams accompanied by descriptions of what the tests assess*</li> <li>• Score gains between entry and exit on published or local tests or writing samples*</li> <li>• Student publications or conference presentations</li> <li>• Employer and internship supervisor ratings of student performance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus groups with students, faculty, or employers</li> <li>• Registration or course enrollment info</li> <li>• Department or program review data</li> <li>• Job placement</li> <li>• Employer or alumni surveys</li> <li>• Student perception surveys</li> <li>• Proportion of upper-level courses compared to the same program at other institutions</li> <li>• Graduate school placement rates</li> </ul>

\*Can also be used in course-level assessment

