2026 – 27 Departmental Assessment Plan

Department/Program/Unit: Link Library **Date: 2026-2027**

Members involved with development of Plan: Director of Library Services and Library Instruction Staff

Departmental/Program/Unit Student Outcome: *What student outcome from the departmental matrix will be assessed? (It is suggested that you cut and paste directly from the matrix. Outcomes should represent the absolute priorities for learning- students must be able to do [this] when they finish our program).*
State as follows: Students should be able to [action verb] [something].
Students should be able to locate and evaluate appropriate academic information resources to support their research assignments.

Background: *What factors caused you to choose this particular assessment outcome? If you chose this outcome because of a perceived problem, please explain*.
Link Library provides information literacy instruction to students across various academic disciplines to support their research assignments and develop essential research skills.
Library instruction introduces students to academic research resources, effective search strategies, and methods for locating and evaluating scholarly information.
To evaluate the effectiveness of these sessions, Link Library implemented a student satisfaction survey to gather feedback on students' instructional experiences.
The library selected this assessment outcome to better understand how students perceive the usefulness of library instruction, their preparation to conduct academic research, and the clarity of instruction provided.
The findings will help identify instructional strengths, areas needing improvement, and opportunities to better support student learning and academic success.

Question: *What specific question(s) are you attempting to answer through assessing this student outcome? (What are you trying to find out? There may be more than one question, but no more than three.)*
1. To what extent do students perceive library instruction as helpful in completing their academic research assignments?
2. How effectively do students believe library instruction prepares them to locate and evaluate academic information?
3. How do students evaluate the clarity of library instruction, and what improvements do they recommend?

Methodology:

1. *OBJECT* - What data (i.e. artifact, exam score, detailed description of assignment) will be collected?*
   Data will be collected through a five-question student satisfaction survey administered following library instruction sessions.The survey includes three closed-ended questions and two open-ended questions: 1.Was the library instruction helpful in completing research assignments? 2.How well did the library instruction prepare you to find and evaluate information?3. How clear and easy to follow were the librarian's instructions?4.What did you find most helpful about this session?5.What is one suggestion you have to improve future library instruction sessions?The survey provides quantitative data regarding students' perceptions of instructional effectiveness and qualitative feedback about their learning experiences.
   a. *How does this data address the assessment question?* Responses to the first three questions will help determine whether students perceive library instruction as useful, whether they feel prepared to locate and evaluate academic information, and whether the librarian communicates research concepts clearly. The two open-ended questions will provide additional insight into the most beneficial aspects of instruction and identify opportunities for improvement. Together, these results will provide indirect evidence of students' perceived research preparation and guide improvements to library instruction.The assessment instrument is the Link Library Student Satisfaction Survey, consisting of five questions.The survey includes three closed-ended questions with response categories reflecting students' evaluations, including "Helpful," "Somewhat Helpful," and "Not Helpful," where applicable, and two open-ended questions. Students participating in selected library instruction sessions during the 2026–2027 academic year will be invited to complete the survey electronically following instruction.
   b. Responses will be collected and compiled by library staff. Results will be analyzed in aggregate to identify trends in student satisfaction, perceived research preparation, and instructional effectiveness.
   c. The library will also document the number of survey responses and, when available, the response rate.

i. *Include/attach a description/example of assessment tool to be used*.

2. *How will data be collected?* Students participating in selected library instruction sessions during the 2026–2027 academic year will be invited to complete the survey electronically following instruction. Responses will be collected and compiled by library staff. Results will be analyzed in aggregate to identify trends in student satisfaction, perceived research preparation, and instructional effectiveness. The library will also document the number of survey responses and, when available, the response rate.

Analysis of Artifacts: *PERFORMANCE CRITERIA* ***** **-** *Discuss:*

1) *How the artifacts will be analyzed (attach rubrics/scoring tools if used):* Survey responses will be analyzed using quantitative and qualitative methods. For the first three questions, the percentage of students selecting each response category will be calculated to determine the perceived usefulness, effectiveness, and clarity of library instruction. Responses to the two open-ended questions will be reviewed and grouped into common themes to identify instructional strengths and recommendations for improvement. The findings will be used to evaluate current instructional practices and determine appropriate changes for future sessions.

2) *How you will know if it is good (i.e. score required by % of students):* The following performance criteria will be used to determine success:

1. Usefulness of instruction: At least 80% of students will indicate that library instruction was "Helpful" in supporting their research assignments.
2. Preparation for research: At least 80% of students will select the most positive response category indicating that instruction prepared them to find and evaluate information.
3. Clarity of instruction: At least 85% of students will select the most positive response category indicating that the librarian's instructions were clear and easy to follow.
4. Continuous improvement: The library will identify at least two actionable findings from the open-ended responses and develop strategies to improve future instruction sessions.

If the established benchmarks are not met, the library will review student feedback and implement appropriate instructional adjustments.

Survey findings and resulting improvements will be documented and used to inform subsequent assessment cycles.

Submitted by: Director of Library Services Date: November 2026 Assessment Committee Reviewed (Date): 11/10/26

Department Chair notified of approval/or additional action needed: Approved