Assessment Plan

B.S. in INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Department of Computer Science
College of Natural, Applied, and Health Sciences
Kean University

Mission:
The Information Technology Program at Kean University has goals that are aligned with the University Mission. The Information Technology faculty are devoted to instilling in their students knowledge of information technology as a way of creating and managing information technology enterprises. As such, we are devoted to academic rigor, critical thought, teaching excellence and ethical scholarship.

As a department, we prepare our students to think critically and creatively to succeed in challenging careers in information technology or pursue graduate degrees by using current technical concepts to analyze user needs and integrate IT-based solutions for the changing technological and social environments in a global economy.

Assessment Process::
Information technology students have ten (10) required courses to take as part of the requirements for the major. These ten required courses provide a foundation for future learning in the discipline with regard to the research and theoretical aspects of information technology as well as the various areas of study within related fields. As such, these ten required courses are the primary vehicle for assessing the knowledge of our students. Beyond the ten required courses, students take other information technology courses selected from a list of electives. It is unlikely that two majors take the exact same grouping of courses. Therefore, the faculty have agreed to center our assessment on the required knowledge of information technology. Each required course has assessment tools as part of the evaluation process; however, culminating assessment is done in TECH 4513. In this course, assessment data is collected from an assignment that requires students to provide the evidence of meeting program goals. Each semester, composite data from scored student assignments will be collected and analyzed to address areas of program strengths and weaknesses and to inform our decisions ultimately resulting in program improvements.

Each core course has assessment tools such as exams, problem assignments, group work products, projects, etc., as part of the evaluation process and the program has used results of assessment for making improvements to program practices aimed at increasing student learning. For example, Tech 1010 includes student presentations of web page designs, accompanied by a project report.

The culminating assignment done in Tech 4513, the Capstone Course, has been identified as a direct measure for assessing attainment of our program Student Learning Outcomes. In this course, assessment data is collected from an assignment that requires students to provide the evidence of meeting program goals. Each semester, composite data from scored student assignments are collected and analyzed to address areas of program strengths and weaknesses and to inform our decisions ultimately resulting in program improvements. In addition, a systematic process for gathering data utilizing an indirect measure, the Graduating Student Survey, was established. Data from the student survey will also help inform our decisions regarding program improvement to increase student learning.

Program Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) – as aligned with KU SLOs derived from the Institutional Mission* and GE SLOs.** (Data from Direct and Indirect Measures collected each semester in the Capstone Course or a designated, end-of-program course.)
Students who graduate with a BS in Information Technology should be able to:

**SLO1:** Ability to use and apply current technical concepts and practices in the core information technologies. (KU 1, 2, 4) (GE K1, S1, S3, S4, S5)

**Direct Measure:** TECH 4513: Project report scored with rubric for achievement of program goals.
**Direct Measure:** TECH 1010 embedded test questions

**Indirect Measure:** Graduating Student Survey

**SLO2:** Identify and analyze user needs and take them into account in the selection, creation, evaluation, and administration of computer-based systems. (KU 1, 4) (GE K1, S1, S3, S4, V2)

**Direct Measure:** TECH 4513: Project report scored with rubric for achievement of program goals.
**Direct Measure:** TECH 1010 final project scored with a rubric

**Indirect Measure:** Graduating Student Survey

**SLO3:** Effectively integrate IT solutions into the user environment. (KU 1, 3) (GE K1, S1, S2, S3, S4, S5)

**Direct Measure:** TECH 4513: Project demo scored with rubric for achievement of program goals.
**Direct Measure:** TECH 1010 common lab performance

**Indirect Measure:** Graduating Student Survey

**SLO4:** Understand best practices and standards and their applications. (KU 1, 4) (GE K1, S1, S2, S5, V5)

**Direct Measure:** TECH 4513: Project report and oral presentation scored with rubric.
**Direct Measure:** TECH 1010 embedded test questions

**Indirect Measure:** Graduating Student Survey

* KU Student Outcomes: Kean University graduates should be able to:
  1. Think critically, creatively and globally;
  2. Adapt to changing social, economic, and technological environments;
  3. Serve as active and contributing members of their communities; and
  4. Advance their knowledge in the traditional disciplines (GE) and enhance skills in professional areas (Prof. pgms)

**General Education Student Learning Outcomes**

**Student Learning Outcomes – Knowledge:** Students will demonstrate proficiency in knowledge and content by:

(K1) applying the scientific method to understand natural concepts and processes;
(K2) evaluating major theories and concepts in social sciences;
(K3) relating historical references to literature; and
(K4) evaluating major theories and concepts in the fine arts.

**Student Learning Outcomes – Skills:** Students will demonstrate the skills necessary to:

(S1) write to communicate and clarify learning;
(S2) communicate effectively through speech;
(S3) solve problems using quantitative reasoning;
(S4) think critically about concepts in multiple disciplines; and
(S5) show information literacy.

**Student Learning Outcomes – Values:** Students will exhibit a set of values that demonstrates:

(V1) personal responsibility
(V2) ethical and social responsibility
(V3) social and civic engagement

(V4) respect for diverse cultures and perspectives
(V5) life-long learning
# Curriculum Map

## Course to Program/Discipline Level Student Learning Outcomes

### Information Technology Program/Discipline

The Information Technology curriculum prepares students to achieve the expected student learning outcomes identified by the program or discipline. The following table demonstrates how learning activities in specific courses map to these learning outcomes.

**Key:**
- **I** = Introduced
- **R** = Reinforced
- **M** = Mastery
- **A** = Assessment evidence collected

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