

## Clarified Sampling Size System to Assess Embedded Assignments

**Goals** – The desired outcomes of the clarified sampling system are the following:

- Increase consistency in sampling across divisions.
- Produce results that more accurately reflect student learning outcomes and are not skewed because of “outliers.”
- Produce results that are a sufficient sample to be statistically relevant, as has been discussed multiple times in AOC and during the degree program juries.
- Create a sustainable process that avoids overwork by faculty members who assess the embedded assignments.

**The Process** – Following is the sampling process to be followed when assessing programs:

- **Stand-Alone Class**

A “stand-alone” class is a course taught in a single setting and delivery system. Stand-alone classes include (1) a single section of a course taught on campus, (2) a single-section online, or (3) an extension center class. The sample size for a stand-alone class is 25 percent of the total number of students enrolled in the class, with a maximum of 15 artifacts (i.e., embedded assignments).

*For instance:* For a single-section campus-based class with 20 students, the sample size is 5. Larger classes would have proportionally larger samples until the enrollment is 60, at which the 15 maximum sample is reached.

- **Stackable Class**

A “stackable” class is one basic class taught by the same professor in the same semester, but has several “sections” in that one overall class. Examples of “stackable” classes:

- Multiple site CIV sections added to a campus-based course
- Multiple sections in a NOLA2U or NOLA2U Flex course
- Multiple sections within one online class

In stackable classes, 25 percent is assessed from the largest class, up to a maximum of 15. After that, a minimum of 3 papers are assessed from each additional section.

*Examples:*

- Setting: A multisite CIV class with 20 campus students and 25 students scattered at 3 additional CIV locations.

Sampling: The sample consists of 5 assessed artifacts from the campus class offering (25 percent) and a minimum of 3 additional assessed artifacts per CIV section.

- Setting: A multi-section online class with 25 students in one section and 15 students enrolled in additional online sections.

Sampling: The sample consists of 6 assessed artifacts from the online class with the 25 students (25 percent of the section with the largest enrollment) and a minimum of 3 assessed artifacts from each additional online section.

- Setting: A NOLA2U or NOLA2UFlex class  
Sampling: The sample consists of 25 percent from the campus class and a minimum of 3 assessed artifacts from the online students (unless more students are online, in which case the above is reversed, i.e., 25 percent of the online class plus a minimum of 3 assessed artifacts from the campus class).
- The minimum sample size:
  - Stand-alone classes: 25 percent of the main class, until the sample reaches the maximum of 15.
  - Stackable classes: 25 percent of the class with the largest enrollment plus a minimum of 3 artifacts from each additional section of stackable classes.
- The maximum sample size for each class is 15 artifacts, plus a minimum of 3 artifacts from each additional section. The enrollment would have to reach 60 students to reach the maximum sample.
- Outliers can skew the results in a comparatively small sample. At the discretion of the faculty jury, an “outlier” score that deviates by more than 1 point (higher or lower) on the Likert scale from the baseline or benchmark may be discarded in the interest of a more representative sample and assessment. However, if there are multiple outliers (either higher or lower), the faculty jury might decide to count the apparent outliers in order to note the overall range.

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