Family and Consumer Sciences Program Assessment Report 2015-16

What was done on assessment this year?

The Family Consumer and Sciences (FCS) program is an approved Certified Family Life Education undergraduate program by the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR). To qualify to be an approved program, the curriculum has to cover NCFR’s ten content areas (i.e., families and individuals in societal contexts, internal dynamics of families, human growth and development across the lifespan, human sexuality, interpersonal relationships, family resource management, parent education and guidance, family law and public policy, professional ethics and practice, and family life education methodology). In our 2015-2016 evaluation we assessed (1) students’ factual and conceptual knowledge in NCFR’s 10 content areas and (2) application of knowledge in internship/student teaching.

What assessment data were collected?

To measure students factual and conceptual knowledge all final grades for FCS students from the courses designated as meeting NCFR’s 10 content areas during Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 semesters. Eleven courses met this designation (i.e., EDEC 160, FCS 261, FCS 263, FCS 337, FCS 339, FCS 359, FCS 437, FCS 457, FCS 460, FCS 464, and HTH 220). Final grades were used because the together they account both factual (e.g., exams) and conceptual (e.g., papers, presentations) components of the course. Our performance goal was to have the majority of our students achieve 75% or higher (passing grades in our program) in these courses. Final grades for all FCS students in these courses were collected and percentages identified. In total, 184 FCS students were enrolled in these courses and 175 students (95%) received C or higher grades.

Secondly, we assess passing rates for FCS students in internship and student teaching. To earn a passing grade the student must have acknowledgement of placement supervisor that the student competently applied coursework knowledge in their applied educational or human service setting. In total, 11 out of 11 students successfully completed FCS 495 or EDU 454.

What was learned from the assessment?

Students in our program are successfully gaining factual and conceptual knowledge related to NCFR’s 10 content areas. Students are also successfully applying this information in student teaching and internship placements.

How did you respond to the assessment results?

Our assessment goals were met in the 2015-2016 assessment. We determined that the results mean that we are on track with the coursework in the program. In the Fall of 2017, we have to seek renewal for our CFLE approved program designation. We are preparing for the renewal process by reviewing each of the courses evaluated to ensure they continue to address the 10 content areas. We have added an additional course in Middle Childhood and Adolescent Development to enhance our human development and growth across the lifespan content area.