Quality Enhancement Plan

› SACS Core Requirement 2.12
  • includes a broad-based institutional process identifying key issues emerging from assessment
  • focuses on learning outcomes and/or the environment supporting student learning and on accomplishing the mission of the institution.
  • demonstrates institutional capability for the initiation, implementation, and completion of the QEP
  • includes broad-based involvement of institutional constituencies in the development and proposed implementation
  • identifies goals and a plan to assess their achievement.

Tarleton’s QEP

› Keeping it REAL – Real-world Experiences
  • designed to enhance undergraduate education by integrating applied learning experiences into the students’ baccalaureate experience.
› Focus on applied learning in five areas
  • Undergraduate research
  • Service learning
  • Leadership
  • Internships and practicum experiences
  • Study away
Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will describe how the applied learning experience integrated their program of study across the curriculum.
- Students will apply their holistic curriculum and collegiate learning to a real-world experience.
- Students will analyze how the applied learning experience prepared them to contribute meaningfully to a global society by expanding their view of their academic, political, social, cultural, and/or economic environments.
- Additional impact: university undergraduate outcomes related to diversity, civic engagement, communications, critical thinking, and technology.

Keeping it REAL

- What makes *Keeping it REAL* initiatives different from existing curricular and extracurricular efforts:
  - e-portfolio content related to applied learning
  - written reflection in his/her e-portfolio that answers three prompts.
  - describe how this applied learning experience helped integrate their curriculum;
  - how they applied their holistic curriculum and collegiate learning to a real-world experience; and
  - how the applied learning experience broadened their academic, political, social, cultural and/or economic global view.
  - Additional e-portfolio artifact(s)

QEP Timeline and Process

- Fall 2006 – Campus conversations began
- Spring 2007 – QEP Committee selected
- Fall 2006–Spring 2007 – Data Review Committee reviews NSSE and CLA data; key issues and general education core serve as basis for survey development.
- Fall 2007 – Survey faculty, staff, and students
- Spring 2008–Summer 2008 – Data analysis, discussion, and refinement into thematic areas
- Fall 2008 – Town Halls; followed by discussion and selection of topic by the committee; begin establishing the parameters of the project
QEP Timeline and Process

- Early Spring 2009 – Gather endorsements from variety of campus constituents; approval by Executive Cabinet
- Spring 2009-Summer 2009 – Refine logistics of implementation, define mission, goals, and student learning outcomes, begin writing draft report
- Early Fall 2009 – send draft report for external review
- Fall 2009 – refine initiation and implementation phases of the QEP; complete draft report
- Spring 2010 – Submit report, SACS visit

Spring 2010 Pilot Experiences

- DGS 102 – refinement of e-portfolio training
- EDU 320 – Professional Development I
- COMS 320 – Public Relations
- ENGR 460 – Engineering Integration
- PSY 335 – Research Methods
- Tarleton Roundup Director’s Staff

Impact

- Compelling the students to think critically and articulate the broader impact of the experience will enhance their overall collegiate experience and better prepare them for life beyond college.
- By successfully completing a number of these experiences, students will be able to graduate with special recognition and will have a strong e-portfolio with which to market themselves to employers and graduate schools.
What to Expect

- During the reaffirmation visit, campus awareness of the QEP will be tested as the SACS team randomly questions anyone at Tarleton.
  - We are asking for your help to ensure the faculty, staff, and students are extremely familiar with the *Keeping It REAL* slogan, logo, and meaning.
- Please be reminded that we appreciate any and all efforts towards our SACS and QEP projects.
- Please see the REAL website, [www.tarleton.edu/real](http://www.tarleton.edu/real), or feel free to contact any member of the REAL Council if you have any questions.