

**Year**

**1. Identify the PLO your program assessed this academic year**

3).Critically evaluate empirical data.

**2. Identify the artifact(s) (i.e. student work) that you used to assess the PLO.**

**[Papers, presentations, portfolios, test items, specific assignments, capstone**

Rubrics-Lab Reports #1 & #2final presentations-Lab reports also

**3. Identify the tools (e.g. rubrics, surveys, performance on standardized test questions) used to assess the artifact(s) (i.e. student work**

Rubrics-Lab Reports #1 & #2final presentations

**4. Explain the results of the assessment activities**

In both lab reports there was significant improvement on overall scores indicating improved ability to analyze data critically.

**5.Where applicable, outline the steps you will take to make improvements to the program based on the results of assessment activities identified in #3.**

More emphasis before the draft on critical analysis to see improved draft scores.

**6. Are there any new resources needed to make program improvements? If so, please include the resources and provide justification for each in the Budget section of the Annual Report.**

## Year

### 1. Identify the PLO your program assessed this academic year

5).Effectively communicate neuroscience information in writing.

### 2. Identify the artifact(s) (i.e. student work) that you used to assess the PLO.

**[Papers, presentations, portfolios, test items, specific assignments, capstone**

Rubrics-NEUR330Rubrics used for drafts of lab reports for preliminary grade. Similar rubric for final grades for revised lab reports.NEUR358Outline for literature review: rubric broken into key areas needed (central theme, organization, sub-themes, conclusion-Information from two courses, NEUR330 & NEUR358.NEUR330Drafts for the first two lab reports and final revised lab reports.NEUR358Outline for literature review due mid semester-students receive feedback no grade.Literature review 5 page paper graded at end of semester.

### 3. Identify the tools (e.g. rubrics, surveys, performance on standardized test questions) used to assess the artifact(s) (i.e. student work

Rubrics-NEUR330Rubrics used for drafts of lab reports for preliminary grade. Similar rubric for final grades for revised lab reports.NEUR358Outline for literature review: rubric broken into key areas needed (central theme, organization, sub-themes, conclusion

### 4. Explain the results of the assessment activities

NEUR330Lab report #1: Rubric revealed that students improved in their writing significantly from their drafts (Average score 58%) to their revised report (Average score 85%). Lab Report #2 showed similar results. NEUR358Outline for literature review: Rubric revealed that 50% of the students scored well on all the key areas of the rubric. 40% had definite difficulties with having a good topic that was focused and within the range of this class.17% of the students had difficulties in organizing the outline, 3% had difficulties in showing the sub-themes of the body of the outline, and 17% had to be strongly encouraged to come in and see me before moving on with the final paper.Literature review paper: Grades for paper were: 23% did excellent (97-100), 61% very good(90-96), and 16% fair (80's). 10% of the reports had not fixed problems found in the outline. In regards to key areas of the paper: 42% of the papers showed problems with focusing on the topic and laying the groundwork for the paper, 26% showed various difficulties in proper citation, 26% revealed difficulties in synthesizing the material into their own words, and 13% had difficulties with providing an organized flow of material presented in the material.

### 5.Where applicable, outline the steps you will take to make improvements to the program based on the results of assessment activities identified in #3.

NEUR330Lab Reports: Since a large portion of our class did not do well on their draft lab reports, we plan to spend more time discussing how lab reports are organized and written. This is something that will be conducted not only in our class, but also i

**6. Are there any new resources needed to make program improvements? If so, please include the resources and provide justification for each in the Budget section of the Annual Report.**

**Year**

**1. Identify the PLO your program assessed this academic year**

4). Demonstrate mastery of the scientific method.

**2. Identify the artifact(s) (i.e. student work) that you used to assess the PLO.**

**[Papers, presentations, portfolios, test items, specific assignments, capstone**

Rubrics--Final research project paper.

**3. Identify the tools (e.g. rubrics, surveys, performance on standardized test questions) used to assess the artifact(s) (i.e. student work**

Rubrics-

**4. Explain the results of the assessment activities**

The final project paper show that the student utilized the scientific method to design and implement a project. 100% of the students that completed the class did this. therefore showing an understanding of the scientific methods. The average poster score was 90.67/100 (low score was 82.67/100) suggesting they understood the scientific method.

**5. Where applicable, outline the steps you will take to make improvements to the program based on the results of assessment activities identified in #3.**

At this point there appears to be enough explanation throughout the course for students to master the use of the scientific method.

**6. Are there any new resources needed to make program improvements? If so, please include the resources and provide justification for each in the Budget section of the Annual Report.**