



Direct and Indirect Measures

Assessment measures are usually grouped into two dichotomous categories: direct and indirect. Direct assessment measures usually entail an assessment of student products and behaviors. This assessment is often done with the use of some type of rubric. Indirect assessment measures consist of perceptions regarding program quality, student preparation, etc. Indirect measures usually do not include independent assessments of student work. The following chart presents examples of both direct and indirect assessment measures. This is not a comprehensive list but is illustrative of some examples of both categories of assessment measures.

Direct Evidence of Student Learning	Indirect Evidence of Student Learning
Annotated bibliographies	Exit interviews with graduating students
Appraisals of live or videotaped presentations	Focus groups with students, alumni, etc.
Assessment center/mock interviews	National ratings or rankings
Case study analysis	Student self-assessment
Completed course assignments	Student or alumni surveys
Community service project reports	Employer surveys
Comprehensive exams, midterms, finals	
Culminating projects, papers, theses	
Internship reports	
Journals, discussion board posts, blogs	
Oral exams evaluated by faculty/practitioners	
Policy analysis reports	
Role-playing, simulations	