



2015-2016 Student Affairs Assessment Plan

Department: KU Recreation Services

Backpack KU Assessment

Divisional Mission

To engage the KU community in services and programs that complement academic goals and enhance quality of life.

Departmental Mission

KU Recreation Services delivers opportunities and promotes lifelong wellness through programs, facilities, and services to heighten the educational experience.

Departmental Student Learning Outcomes

Students who utilize or interact with services and programs provided by Recreation Services will be able to...

1. Practice skills and behaviors that contribute to their overall health and wellness. (*CAS Standard: Practical Competence*)
2. Develop healthy, mutually beneficial relationships with others through participation in programs such as Intramural Sports, Sport Clubs, Fitness and Outdoor Pursuits. (*CAS Standard: Interpersonal Competence*)
3. Acquire and demonstrate practical skills (such as risk management, organizational skills, critical thinking, time management, etc.) that allow them to be effective students and/or employees at KU and beyond. (*CAS Standard: Practical Competence, Cognitive Complexity, Knowledge Acquisition*)

Description of Service/Program Area

Backpack KU serves as a bridging program—connecting a small group of KU students as they transition from high school to college. Through an organized trip in the days preceding the start of the fall semester, participants are able to meet new friends, share experiences, and explore a different environment all while enjoying nature.

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Service/Program Student Learning Outcome(s)

Students participating in Backpack KU will be able to...

- Engage in behaviors that contribute to their overall health, fitness, and well-being. (Departmental Student Learning Outcomes #1 and #3)
- Apply acquired knowledge to new situations to solve an issue. (Departmental Student Learning Outcome #3)
- Develop interpersonal skills that allow them to form meaningful relationships with others and establish a connection with KU (Departmental Student Learning Outcome #2)

Divisional Student Learning Outcomes: *Check all that apply*

- Knowledge Acquisition
- Cognitive Complexity
- Intrapersonal Development
- Interpersonal Competence
- Humanitarianism & Civic Engagement
- Practical Competence

Project Specifics

Project Title: Backpack KU Assessment

Purpose of the project: Assess student participants' perception of the learning that occurs during Backpack KU trips. In addition, this assessment will provide Outdoor Pursuits staff with insight into participants' perception of Backpack KU and possible areas of improvement.

Assessment method(s): Paper survey comprised of both quantitative and qualitative questions.



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Staff contact(s): Mike Dickey, Assistant Director, Facility Management/Outdoor Pursuits, mdickey@ku.edu

Timeline/frequency: August 2015. Paper survey administered on site during trip home from Backpack KU experience.

Population/Sample: All Summer 2015 Backpack KU student participants.

Special challenges to this assessment: Ensuring participants do not feel forced to complete the survey. Further, since survey is completed during trip home, maintaining the anonymity of responses may be challenging.

Use to inform current practice: Results will assist Outdoor Pursuits staff in determining whether or not to continue the program.

Plans for reporting results: Results will be shared with KU Recreation Services staff. In addition, results will also be included in the Student Affairs annual report.

CampusLabs Used: Yes No