



2020 -2021 Student Affairs Assessment Plan

Department: KU Student Housing

Residential Curriculum – Yearly Assessment for First Year Educational Plan

Division Mission

To engage the KU community in services and programs that make learning possible.

Department Mission

Building learning-centered communities through individual support and respect.

Department Student Learning Outcomes

Students who utilize or interact with services and programs provided by KU Student Housing will be able to...

1. Demonstrate personal responsibility for themselves and their actions.
(Intrapersonal Development and Practical Competence)
2. Develop the skills (such as an awareness of how actions affect others and conflict management) necessary to make positive contributions to their community.
(Interpersonal Competence)
3. Develop competencies necessary to connect to the ever-changing global community. (Humanitarianism & Civic Engagement).

Description of Service/Program

KU Student Housing supports students as they develop into the best versions of themselves. Through intentional connections and crafted support, students living in Student Housing will gain competence in academic success, engaged civility, health & wellness, inclusion, and self & relational management. The residential curriculum is linked to KU's academic mission.

Residential Curriculum Educational Priority: As a result of living on campus at the University of Kansas, students will become responsible members of their current and future communities through engaged learning.

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Service/Program Student Learning Outcome(s)

Students participating in the Residential Curriculum - First Year Educational Plan will be able to...

- Identify areas for academic growth (Departmental Outcomes #1, 3).
- Describe strategies for academic success (Departmental Outcomes #2, 3).
- Describe the value of being involved outside of the classroom (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2, 3).
- Discuss how national or global events affect the campus/local community (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2, 3).
- Define healthy habits regarding alcohol and other drugs (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2).
- Identify campus/local community resources regarding health and wellness (Departmental Outcomes #1, 3).
- Relate social justice and inclusion concepts to their personal and KU experiences (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2, 3).
- Explain their social identities (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2, 3).
- Express an increased confidence in ability to confront social identity based conflict (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2, 3).
- Compare the congruence of their actions and their values/beliefs (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2, 3).
- Recognize the importance of building and sustaining positive relationships with others (Departmental Outcomes #1, 2).

Divisional Student Learning Outcomes: *Check all that apply*

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

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Project Specifics

Project Title:

Residential Curriculum – Yearly Assessment for First Year Educational Plan

Purpose of the project:

This yearlong assessment plan will be implemented in order to gain a holistic understanding of the learning that is taking place for first year students living on campus. Various methods and questions asked will tie directly to the five Learning Goals identified: Academic Success, Engaged Civility, Health & Wellness, Inclusion, and Self & Relational Management. This is the third year of implementation for the newly revised Residential Curriculum, as well as the third year of the assessment plan, and the collection of this data, along with previous years’ data, will help inform future iterations of both.

Assessment method(s):

Targeted surveys, Rubrics for monthly assessment of online engagements, Student response collection of educational programs and marquee events

Staff contact(s):

Kirsten Andrews	kjandrews@ku.edu	Assistant Director
Megan Nemec	mnemec@ku.edu	Complex Director

Timeline/frequency:

The timeline of this assessment plan will take place throughout the 2020-2021 academic year. Frequency of some of the methods are based on when community meetings take place (approximately 4 times per year), as well as when events are hosted in each community (approximately 3 times per semester). Monthly assessments will be sent to students that live on campus regarding educational interactions via Community Microsoft Teams accounts. Additional methods and frequencies of those methods may be added as COVID operations allow.

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Population/Sample:

The population being assessed will be all students that live with KU Student Housing, including residents of Apartment Living, Scholarship Halls, and Residence Halls (approximately 4,100 students in total). The focus for the current educational plan is on first-year students living on campus; however, there are some methods that will collect data for non-first year students. This will not include residents of the Sunflower Apartments or Naismith Hall.

Special challenges to this assessment:

Three main challenges exist within this assessment plan. The first exists with the decentralized nature of some of the assessment methods. When assessments are administered by complex (rather than centrally), there may be differences in how an assessment is distributed or communicated, which can impact the number of responses or potentially the responses themselves. Additionally, the decentralized administration sometimes may take place over the course of a few days. In order to try and mitigate the impact of this, identical instructions will be given to each complex about how to administer the assessment, with a note that suggestions and changes should be noted for future iterations of the plan (but not to make changes during this version).

Secondly, there is potential for the sample to experience survey fatigue. The plan aims to utilize a wide variety of forms of assessment (some that intentionally may not even feel like assessment) to help avoid this, but there is high potential for respondent numbers to decrease over time. Monthly assessments on Microsoft Teams will be incentivized by complex, and there are also some additional considerations/funding requests pending for additional incentives to assist with this issue.

Finally, the unknown of our current work as it related to the COVID pandemic has the ability to completely uproot both the assessment of the Residential Curriculum, as well as the curriculum itself. In order to combat this, we are shifting our planning and implementation of the curriculum for this year to focus on the semester at hand, and aiming to not plan more than 2-3 months in advance. This may mean that some of our yearlong, aggregate data is collected or measured in different ways than previous years, but due to the uncertainty of what exactly the school year will look like, this is the most

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reasonable way to plan as far out as possible while still maintaining achievable learning goals.

Use to inform current practice:

Results of the various components of the assessment plan will be used to inform current practices in two main ways. The first will be as aggregate data at the end of the year. Measurements of overall learning from this year's Residential Curriculum will inform what changes, edits, and updates need to be made to the next year's plan, as well as how results and information from the First-Year Educational Plan can inform the creation and implementation of plans created for other years of students. The second use for informing current practices will be as the results for each component come in. When opportunities exist to make immediate updates, mainly within individual complexes or buildings, the results can help inform Senior Staff on changes that may need to be made in order for students to have the opportunity to develop in the areas recently assessed.

Plans for reporting results:

Overall results of the assessment plan will be shared via the Student Affairs Annual Report, as well as with KU Student Housing staff at the end of the year. Throughout the year, immediate results of each assessment component will be shared directly with the Complex Senior Staff so that they can be aware of what learning is taking place throughout the year. There may also be times throughout the year that a particular method's results may be shared with a specific group of staff (for example, the Residence Life team, Undergraduate Staff, or Front Desk Staff) depending on the impact that the specific group can have on student learning. This type of reporting will be based on what is learned as each component is completed, and if there are opportunities that exist to immediately impact learning positively by implementing a change. Results of this year's assessments will also be used in comparison to future years in order to establish a timeline of progress. We will also share relevant data points on our Housing website and marketing materials.

Qualtrics Used: Yes No