

Does your program have a discipline-specific communication-intensive (W) course?

Here are some tips on using W courses for assurance of learning:

Students take many general education and core courses in which they can learn more effective writing/speaking skills. However, discipline-specific communication-intensive (W) courses play a special role. *Discipline-specific W courses can help students learn to communicate using the vocabulary, methods, and styles that they are most likely to use in their discipline and in their future careers.*

Your program has at least one student learning outcome related to effective communication, and your discipline-specific W course provides a venue to teach/reinforce those skills.

- Map your curriculum: Your communication SLO should map onto your W course

When you evaluate your students' communication skills via assurance of learning, your faculty will discover strengths, weaknesses, common misunderstandings, and discipline-specific concerns.

- Your W course provides a specific place for faculty to add, delete, revise, and revisit content and instructional strategies to address weaknesses and improve your students' communication skills.