

Nashua Community College
Electronic Engineering Technology
Department Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2022

Discussion

Both full time faculty in the EET program at Nashua Community College (Susan Hughes and Austin Hewin) met to discuss the current method used to assess Points of Learning (POLs) for each course. The college refers to POLs as Course Competencies and the terms can be used interchangeably.

The POLs for each course are stated in the syllabus and measured, where appropriate, throughout the semester through:

- Exam questions
- Labs
- Quizzes
- Homework assignments

Each POL is normalized to the range 0 – 10.0.

The current assessment method calculates each POL based on the class averages of its component scores.

For example, the POL calculations for **ELET250 F2021** are shown below:

How were POL scores evaluated for this course?

POL1 = Average of EXAM1(1-9, 32-38)); HW/Labs

POL2 = Average of EXAM1(22-26, 49); EXAM2(16); HW/Labs

POL3 = Average of EXAM2(3,13,14)); EXAM3(2,6,11,12);
HW/Labs

POL4 = Average of EXAM3(10-14)); HW/Labs

Note - HW/Labs counts 2 exam questions

Note - HW 10% / Lab 30%, average is $(HW + Labs*3)/4$

For POL1, the class average of Exam1 Q1-9, Q32-38, and the class average of $(HW + Labs*3)/4$ are used to calculate the final result. If the POL is ≥ 7.0 , the criterion has been met.

Other departments at NCC currently utilize a different approach to assessing course competencies. They measure the course competencies per student and evaluate whether a percentage of students meet a defined threshold for that competency. In an effort to align with the other departments, the EET department will calculate the POLs for each student per course then compare those results to a defined threshold.

For 100-level courses, the target will be 50% of students scoring ≥ 7.0 for each POL.

For 200-level courses, the target will be 70% of students scoring ≥ 7.0 for each POL.

These calculations will not replace the POL assessment method currently used and documented for ABET but will be used in addition to the current method to evaluate POLs and consequently program student outcomes.

Conclusion

The following items will be completed during the F2022-S2023 academic year:

- Assessment of POLs using the current method based on average component scores for the class
- Assessment of POLs using the individual student scores as compared to a defined threshold

The EET department will assess both methods for at least the next two years to gauge whether additional insights can be gained into student performance.

Meeting notes recorded on Tuesday, June 14, 2002.

Professor Susan Hughes (Program Coordinator)

Professor Austin Hewin

