Data Collection & Analysis Menu

We are generally able to pursue the following types of data collection and analysis as part of our department instructional assessment support. Participating teams should expect the scope and details of this work to be refined during an initial consultation.

**Quantitative options**

- **Student demographics** for specific courses and semesters as far back as Fall 2011, such as race/ethnicity, gender, first generation status, parental education, transfer status, veteran status, majors/minors.

- **Quantitative student achievement and persistence markers** for all enrolled students in specific courses/semesters and/or disaggregated for student subpopulations (Hispanic students, female students, first generation students, majors, etc.).
  - Percentage of students receiving D, F/U, or W grades (DFW rates).
  - Retention rates between sequenced courses.
  - Retention rates between years (e.g., first to second year on campus).
  - Diagrams showing students’ trajectories in and out of different majors.

- **Quantitative indicators of (in)equality in student achievement** in specific courses, aggregated over multiple semesters. Roughly measures differences in student grade attainment for specific student subpopulations relative to all students.

- **Workforce earnings data** for specific STEM majors.

**Qualitative options**

- **Surveys of STEM students** who are currently enrolled in specific courses or have specific majors. Surveys can broadly investigate topics such as the nature of students’ experiences in those courses or departments and solicit their input about potential changes. Survey responses can be disaggregated by demographics (see above).

- **Focus groups with 5-10 students (or more with additional groups)** who are invited to participate based on their enrollment in specific courses, their majors, and/or their demographic characteristics. Focus groups can provide an in-depth look at individual students’ experiences, reveal underlying commonalities across students’ experiences, and elicit detailed and constructive feedback about courses or departments.

Questions? Email us at STEMCommunities@txstate.edu

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