

AURORA UNIVERSITY

Course Continuity Policy

Effective: Immediately

Last Updated: 2/16/22

Responsible University Office: Office of Academic Affairs

Responsible Executive: Vice President for Academic Affairs

Approval: Faculty Senate 5/6/22

Scope: All full-time and part-time faculty; departmental chairs; academic deans.

A. REASON FOR POLICY

This policy supports compliance with the Higher Learning Commission Criterion 3.A.3 stipulation that *the institution's program quality and learning goals are consistent across all modes of delivery and all locations (on the main campus, at additional locations, by distance delivery, as dual credit, through contractual or consortial arrangements, or any other modality).*

B. POLICY

Three course modalities are recognized at Aurora University: campus-based synchronous courses/experiences, remote synchronous courses/experiences, and online asynchronous courses/experiences. Courses are delivered at multiple campuses and cohort locations as well.

Targeted learning outcomes do not vary by mode nor location of instruction. Therefore,

- The learning objectives guiding courses will be those represented in the university catalog.
- The learning outcomes guiding the courses will be included in the syllabi and will not differ across modality nor location.
- While there may be mild variations in pedagogy across individual course sections, this will not deter the achievement of the common learning objectives.
- Courses identified for data collection in support of university, general education, and/or program learning outcomes will display and align to the common learning objective(s), and incorporate prescribed assignments designated for this assessment, regardless of modality or location.

C. DEFINITIONS

D. PROCEDURES

This course continuity policy is applied to all courses and locations under the supervision of the Vice-President for Academic Affairs. The Office of Academic Affairs works with the department chairs, administrative and academic deans, Director(s) of General Education, General Education Committee, Director(s) of Assessment, Assessment Committee, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Graduate Affairs Committee, and Office of the Registrar to ensure the appropriate alignment of course curriculum and assessment with approved learning outcomes.

The faculty and governance committees are responsible for the initial and ongoing determination of program and general education learning outcomes. Revisions are approved subject to shared governance via the undergraduate curriculum committee, graduate affairs committee, and senate.

The chairs and academic deans are responsible for ensuring that assessment plans for programs, and syllabi for courses scheduled by their departments and schools, comply with the Course Continuity Policy.

The Office of the Registrar will ensure that the most current and approved learning objectives are captured in the university catalogs.

Should discrepancies be identified, the Office of Academic Affairs will communicate needed adjustments to the Office of the Registrar and/or academic departments and schools.