

Student Engagement in Assessment Mini-Grant

Mini-Grant Inception

The Institutional Effectiveness (IE) Assessment Working Team sponsored its inaugural Student Engagement in Assessment Mini-Grant during the 2023-24 academic year. The mini-grant was established to infuse equity-minded assessment practices into academic and co-curricular programs/units' assessment activities. Involving students in the assessment process validates their lived experiences as learners and provides faculty/staff with unique perspectives to enhance the student learning experience.

Student Learning Goals

- Students will gain assessment knowledge and skills (e.g., student learning outcomes development, identifying measures and criteria, analyzing results, curriculum mapping).
- Students will develop a sense of agency to help inform program/unit decision-making.

Faculty & Staff Support

- Faculty and staff receive resources and guides on how to engage students in each phase of the assessment cycle.
- Faculty/staff receive constructive feedback and input on program/unit assessment activities from the AWT.
- Cohort members share their projects with one another to get feedback and ideas.

About the 2024-25 Recipients

The Master of Arts in Linguistics engages students in an interdisciplinary curriculum to study and evaluate the role of language in culture and society.

All seven undergraduate degrees at Newhouse aim to train the next generation of media scholars, innovators, creators and broadcasters.

The Master of Public Health degree prepares students to address complex health challenges through public health frameworks of epidemiology, environmental health, health systems and policies, and behavioral sciences.

Retention and Student Success team support students, faculty, staff, parents and supporters in identifying and removing academic and non-academic barriers to help students meet their goals.

The Social Work B.S. prepares student to advocate for social, economic, and environmental justice, challenge social inequities, develop self-awareness, and practice cultural competence and cultural humility.

Benefits to Students

- Empowers students to become agents of their own learning.
- Encourages reflective/metacognitive learning.
- Allows students to share their experiences and contribute to the assessment process in meaningful ways (e.g., participate through school/college, department, or program committees, surveys, course feedback, focus groups).
- Fosters skill development such as communication, research, analysis, and problem-solving.

Benefits to Faculty & Staff

- Provides constructive feedback and input on assessment activities (e.g., students' feedback, co-creating/revising learning outcomes, assisting with rubric development, analyzing, and interpreting data).
- Encourages reflection on and improvement to the holistic teaching, learning, and student experience.
- Creates a reciprocal and inclusive community committed to advancing critical student learning practices and conversations.

Want to Apply?

Up to 5 mini-grants are available for 2025-26. Mini-grants are \$500 and can be used to pay student stipend(s), purchase software/tools/books for assessment that a student would utilize, meetings/retreats where students are collaborating with faculty/staff, and/or purchase food or incentives to increase student(s) participation in assessment sessions.

