

# What is Assessment?

**Assessment** is an ongoing, systematic process that involves:

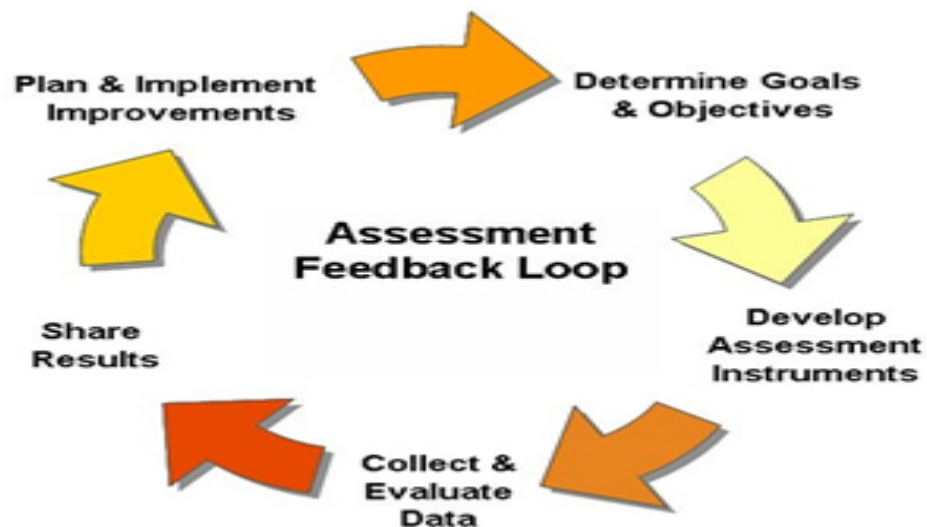
- Establishing clear, measurable expected goals of student learning
- Gathering, analyzing, and interpreting information
- Applying information and using the results for continuous improvement of teaching and learning.

Student Learning includes the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and personal development attained through curricular, co-curricular, and out-of-class learning experiences.

## Assessment should:

Help faculty/departments/programs determine goals and objectives/outcomes

- What does understanding demonstrate?
- What does knowledge demonstrate?
- What does mastery demonstrate?



Assist in the development of assessment

instruments that collect data useful for determining attainment of objectives

Evaluate progress

- How are students progressing in the program?
- What pedagogical approaches are most effective?
- What changes or modifications are needed to help students?

Provide diagnostic feedback

- What are the student's needs?
- Where could students improve and the program improve in order to meet those needs?
- Are the instruments collecting useful data?

Motivate student learning

- For students: How am I doing? How can I learn better?
- For faculty: What is working for the students? What can we do to help students more?

Help the institution remain accountable

- Are we providing students with the educational experience we say we are?