Many departments at Marquette have implemented high-quality program assessments, effectively using best practices at many stages of the cycle. Below, you will find brief descriptions of best-practice assessment components, along with short lists of Marquette programs that did exemplary work in each area on their AY 2014 reports. Remember: you can view these programs' assessment reports on ARMS!

### Effective Student Learning Outcomes...
- describe what students should be able to demonstrate, represent or produce.
- are stated in clear and specific terms, using precise active verbs.
- focus on the learning result, not the process.
- can be reasonably observed and measured.
- are aggressive but attainable.

**Marquette Best-Practice Programs:** Corporate Communications Masters, EDPL College Student Personnel Masters, Human Resources Masters, MSCS Computing Masters, Career Services

### Effective Rubrics...
- align with student learning outcomes, so that what is taught is what is assessed.
- use examples and precise descriptors to distinguish between levels of performance.
- give instructors and students the information they need to plan for focused learning.

**Marquette Best-Practice Programs:** Mechanical Engineering PhD, Computer Engineering Major, Communication Masters, Healthcare Technologies Management Masters, Leadership and Organizations Major, English as a Second Language program

### Effective Curriculum Maps...
- align learning outcomes with courses (requirements, experiences) that address them.
- use indicators to show where topics are introduced, reinforced, and assessed.
- evolve with the assessment cycle to reflect changes in the discipline
- help align program practices with learning outcomes by revealing gaps or redundancies in the curriculum.

**Marquette Best-Practice Programs:** Biological Sciences Major, Clinical Mental Health Counseling Masters, School Counseling Masters, Accounting Masters

### Effective Evidence Analysis...
- breaks evidence down in enough detail to reveal specific patterns and discrepancies.
- tracks evidence over time to show change, especially in response to department actions.
- gives stakeholders a clear, actionable sense of program strengths and weaknesses.

**Marquette Best-Practice Programs:** Education Initial Teacher Certification, History Major, Counseling Center

### Effective Reflections...
- emerge from an inclusive, collaborative process.
- are thorough, in-depth, specific--going beyond a superficial "we’re fine"
- are realistic and proactive about weaknesses revealed by evidence.
- focus on growth, turning information into action.

**Marquette Best-Practice Programs:** History Major, English Major, Human Resources Masters, Political Science Major, Career Services