

University Policy 3.02.06 Academic Quality and Effectiveness

Policy Revision Approval Date: May 12, 2016

Policy Revision Effective Date: June 1, 2016

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POLICY STATEMENT

Capella University sets standards for the academic quality and effectiveness of its curriculum, instructional and learning assessments platforms as well as the expected and actual learning outcomes they produce.

These standards are competency-based, professionally relevant, current, efficient, and cohesive. These standards are established in relationship to university mission, strategic vision, values and educational philosophy, as well as external standards provided by agencies such as the Higher Learning Commission, specialized accreditors, professional organizations, and the professional disciplines Capella serves.

Capella University is committed to developing and strengthening a culture of quality that values using the assessment of learning and other data to foster continuous improvement of learning at all organizational levels, as well as accountability to external stakeholders. Capella conducts regular, data-informed, and qualitative evaluation of academic quality and effectiveness pursuant under the oversight of the deans and chief academic officer.

RATIONALE

This policy demonstrates Capella's commitment to providing a high level of academic quality and effectiveness for its curriculum, instructional and learning assessment platforms, and outcomes. Within these standards, Capella systematically and continuously reviews its academic quality and effectiveness so strengths and opportunities can be acknowledged and improved.

DEFINITIONS

Academic Program Review

An academic program review is a comprehensive program self-study that takes into consideration academic concerns, including but not limited to: university mission, university goals, accreditation guidance, faculty and learner needs, demand for the program, enrollment trends, completion rates, persistence, and emerging knowledge within the field.

PROCEDURES

I. Academic Program Review

- A. In order to monitor the quality and effectiveness of Capella University curriculum and programs, academic leadership will formally and informally review academic programs on a continuous basis.

- B. Evaluations required by external accreditation agencies or professional organizations fulfill the requirement for academic program review.
- C. The results of the academic program review will be provided to the respective school's dean.
- D. Any new, retired, or restaged programs will be subject to university policy *3.02.01 Program and Course Development*.

II. Assessment

Assessment of learning at Capella University is grounded in the university's mission, values, and educational philosophy.

POLICY OWNERS

Academic Owner: Chief Academic Officer

Operations Owner: Director of Academic Quality Analytics and Accreditation

RELATED DOCUMENTS

University policy *1.01.01 Mission Statement and Educational Philosophy*

University policy *3.02.01 Program and Course Development*

University policy *3.04.07 Grading*

REVISION HISTORY

Original Policy Approval Date: 5-12-2016