

Assessing Humanism at WesternU:
Overview of WASC
Humanism Panel Self Study

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WesternU Mission Statement

“To produce in a humanistic tradition, health care Professionals and biomedical knowledge that enhances and extends quality of life in our communities.”

Self Study Methodology

- Literature Review
- Student surveys
 - IRE Annual Surveys
 - WASC Panel Survey
- Faculty and Administrator survey
 - HERI Faculty survey
- Curriculum review
 - Didactic, SP Program, Clinical Rotations
- Evaluation of Student Services
 - CDIHP

**Humanism Study can be found at:

<http://www.westernu.edu/bin/oir/HumanisticCareEERReport041309.pdf>

Findings

- Survey results
 - Caring/Compassionate and Empathy/sympathy were the most commonly identified descriptors of humanism.
 - Faculty identified interpersonal observations (e.g., SP encounters) as the best way to assess humanism
 - 18% of faculty indicated they never teach humanistic topics; 13% say they do it frequently.
 - The large majority of students and alumni agreed that they believe in or practice humanistic principles.
- Curriculum observations
 - All five colleges (at the time) assesses humanism through SP encounters
 - All colleges evaluate humanism in rotations
 - Humanism is embedded in didactic curriculum through methods such as service learning, PBL cases, ECM, student-patient alliances, etc.
- Assessing humanism
 - Few programs explicitly assess humanism data at the program level