SAIS Revisions and Validation Study

Jennifer Ann Morrow, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Evaluation, Statistics, and Measurement

2014-15 SAIS Task Force

Tasked by the Provost with revision of the Student Assessment of Instruction System (SAIS) questionnaire and delivery system.

Purpose:

- Decrease number of SAIS questions and define terms/constructs being measured
- Include good teaching indicators
- Avoid construct repetition via SAIS questions.

Task force members developed:

- ► A core set of 11 End of Course (EOC) evaluation questions
- Suggested supplemental questions (discussion, lab, online).

Marsh's 9 Factors in Student Evaluation of Teaching	Construct
1. Rapport/Enthusiasm for Subject	The perceived ability of the instructor to reach out and connect with students. The perceived level of availability of the instructor beyond regularly scheduled meeting times.
 Breadth of Coverage Course Delivery Organization/Clarity Grading (feedback) Course Resources 	Course dimensions – The perceived organization and effectiveness of the course as delivered.
7. Group Interaction	The perceived opportunity for student-to-student to practice or actively engage course content.
8. Learning/Value	The perceived opportunity for student to practice or actively engage course content. The perceived level of value of the course experience
9. Workload/Difficulty	The perceived level of academic challenge the course presented to the student.

Revised SAIS – Initial Draft (Core Questions)

► To what extent:

- ▶ 1. Were the learning objectives clearly stated?
- **2.** Was the instruction consistent with the stated learning objectives?
- **▶ 3.** Were the class sessions well organized?
- ▶ 4. Did the instructor create an atmosphere that invited you to seek additional help?

Revised SAIS – Initial Draft (Core Questions)

► To what extent:

- > 5. Did the instructor contribute to your understanding of course content?
- ► 6. Did the course provide opportunities for you to engage with the subject matter in a meaningful way?
- > 7. Did the course challenge you to learn something new?
- ▶ 8. Did the course provide opportunities for you to interact with other students in relation to this course?

Revised SAIS – Initial Draft (Core Questions)

► To what extent:

- ▶ 9. Did the course provide opportunities for you to interact with the instructor in relation to this course?
- ► 10. Did the course materials (readings, homework, laboratories, etc.) enhance your learning in this course?
- ► 11. Did graded assessments, such as examinations, quizzes, projects, etc. measure what you learned?

Revised SAIS – Possible Response Categories

- ► 5-Always or almost always ► 5-More than 80% of the
- ► 4-Most of the time
- > 3-About half of the time
- **2-Occasionally**
- ► 1-Never or almost never

- time
- ► 4-60% to 80% of the time
- **3-40%** to 60% of the time
- **2-20% to 40% of the time**
- ▶ 1-Less than 20% of the time

Questions for Discussion/Recitation Sections

- ▶ 1. My instructor develops classroom discussion skillfully.
- **2.** This course provides an opportunity to learn from other students.
- ▶ 3. There is an appropriate mix of lecture and discussion in this class.
- ▶ 4. My instructor encourages questions and expression of ideas.
- ▶ 5. Class discussion is kept on track and moving forward.

Questions for Lab Sections

To What Extent:

- ► 1. Did the activities and assignments in the laboratory sessions enhance your learning in this course?
- ► 2. Did the laboratory instructor create an atmosphere that invited students to seek additional help when they needed it?
- > 3. Were the laboratory instructor's explanations and directions clear?
- ▶ 4. Did the laboratory instructor create an atmosphere that supported student learning?
- **▶ 5.** Were laboratory sessions well organized?

Questions for Online/Hybrid Courses

- ► 1. Did the instructor respond promptly to email inquiries?
- **▶ 2.** Was the course site organized clearly?
- > 3. Were there opportunities for interaction between instructor and students?
- ► 4. Were there opportunities for interaction between peers?
- ▶ 5. Were the technology tools appropriate for the course?

Need to Develop Questions For

- ► 1. Studio Courses
- **2.** Performance Courses
- **▶ 3.** Courses with a Service Learning Component
- ▶ 4. Other types of courses?

Validation of New EOC Assessment

Team of Evaluation, Statistics, and Measurement (ESM)
Doctoral Program faculty, graduates, and students will
conduct the validation study

▶ Fall 2015 and Spring 2016

► Work closely with SAIS Task Force and key stakeholders

Final recommendations to be given in Summer 2016.

Validation of EOC Assessment – Fall 2015

- Meetings with key stakeholder groups
 - **► Undergraduate Council**
 - **▶** Graduate Council
 - ► Faculty Senate
 - **Student Government Associations**
 - ► Undergraduate Student Government Association (SGA)
 - **▶** Graduate Student Senate (GSS)

Meetings with Deans and Department Chairs.

Validation of EOC Assessment – Fall 2015

Extensive testing of new Campus Labs online system

- Perceptions of New End of Course (EOC) instrument and EOC purpose and use
 - ► Faculty (campus-wide survey)
 - ► Students (campus wide survey & focus groups)

> Selection of courses for first pilot testing of new EOC assessment.

Validation of EOC Assessment – Spring 2016

► Analysis of Fall 2015 pilot data

Modifications to assessment questions, response categories, and format as needed

> Selection of courses for second pilot testing of EOC assessment.

Validation of EOC Assessment – Spring 2016

Development of Course Evaluation System Guide

Training for faculty and departmental staff on Campus Labs system.

Validation of EOC Assessment – Summer 2016

► Analysis of data from Spring 2016 pilot test

Modifications to assessment questions and format as needed

► Final recommendations to Provost

Dissemination of findings.

Feedback on the EOC Evaluation Process

- Suggestions for improving the response rate.
- Suggestions for increasing buy-in among faculty/students for the EOC assessment.
- Feedback on core 11 questions and suggestions for response categories.
- Suggestions for supplemental questions.
- Other feedback.

Assistance From Faculty Senate

- ► Share handout on revised SAIS with your faculty.
- Solicit feedback about the EOC process and new items from your faculty.
- Encourage your faculty/students to provide feedback by completing the upcoming survey (early October).
- Suggestions for Instructors/Clinical Faculty and Tenured Faculty that could participate in pilot studies.

Send Feedback on the EOC Assessment to:

Jennifer Ann Morrow, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Evaluation, Statistics, and Measurement

Department of Educational Psychology and Counseling

University of Tennessee

Knoxville, TN 37996-3452

Email: jamorrow@utk.edu

http://epc.utk.edu/evaluation-statistics-measurement/