

Bradley University Assessment Cycle

The assessment cycle is a three-year cycle that repeats in perpetuity or until cycle adjustment. In each year, one nationally normed and benchmarked tool designed to capture a range of global competencies or outcomes will be combined with one homegrown tool designed to drill down more precisely on a subset of competencies or outcomes. Where possible, data and artifacts collected for use in home grown tool will be drawn from data embedded in existing courses and curricula, and administration of tests will be conducted through pre-existing venues (e.g., Freshman orientation, EHS 120, senior capstone courses).

Cross-sectional studies within each year compare gains from Freshman (F) vs. Senior (S) students chosen via stratified random sampling method (N=100 per group). Freshmen will be tested in early Fall, seniors in mid to late Spring within the same academic year. Outcomes (O) reports will be made available at the onset of the subsequent Fall term, and Recommendations (R) reports will be completed by the onset of the Spring term, following an open comment period of 1-2 months.

Longitudinal continuation of assessment cycle enables longitudinal comparisons in addition to cyclical cross-sectional studies in every 4th year.

Continuous adjustments to the assessment cycle can and should occur, with the recognition that longitudinal studies may be compromised. Evaluation of the assessment cycle process should be undertaken every 7 to 10 years, and should include external evaluators.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
	CLA QL	MAPP OC	NSSE EC	CLA QL	MAPP OC
Testing	F S	F S	F S	F S	F S
Reporting		O R	O R	O R	O R