



# Academic Program Review Orientation

**Meg Lota Brown, Ph.D.**

Associate Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

February 25, 2026

We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O’odham and the Yaqui. The University strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.

## PURPOSE

Working together to expand human potential,  
explore new horizons and enrich life for all.

## MISSION

We will continuously improve how we educate and  
innovate so we can lead the way in developing  
adaptive problem-solvers capable of tackling our  
greatest challenges.

## CORE VALUES

INTEGRITY • COMPASSION • EXPLORATION • ADAPTATION  
INCLUSION • DETERMINATION



# WASC | Senior College and University Commission

## STANDARD 2: Achieving Educational Objectives and Student Success

The institution achieves its objectives for educational effectiveness and success for all students through the core functions of teaching and learning, removal of barriers to student success, and support for student learning, scholarship, and creative activity. The institution demonstrates that core functions are student-centered and performed effectively by evaluating valid and reliable evidence of learning and other outcomes.

### CRITERIA FOR REVIEW (CFR) 2.4:

The institution conducts periodic reviews of its degree programs. The program review process includes analysis of student achievement of the program's learning outcomes.

Visit: <https://www.wscuc.org/institutions/university-of-arizona/> and  
<https://www.wscuc.org/handbook2023/#standards-of-accreditation>



# ABOR | Arizona Board of Regents Policy Manual

## Policy 2-225: Academic Program Review

A. The primary purposes of academic program review are:

1. To provide information that can be used by the University to strengthen and improve academic programs;
2. To ensure effective use of state resources;
3. To provide information for university and system-wide planning;
4. To reduce unnecessary program duplication within and between Universities and to eliminate unproductive programs;
5. To provide information for use in University and Board evaluation of new program proposals, of budget requests and of capital project requests.
6. To identify and provide special recognition for outstanding programs that have achieved national or international stature.

Visit: <https://public.powerdms.com/ABOR/documents/1491661>



## APR MANAGEMENT GROUP

### Office of the Provost | Academic Affairs

- Meg Lota Brown, Associate Vice Provost, Academic Affairs
- Kat Francisco, Senior Manager, Academic Affairs

### UCATT | University Center for Assessment, Teaching & Technology

- Lisa Elfring, Vice Provost, Assessment, Teaching and Technology
- Elaine Marchello, Director, Learning Assessment
- Laurie Sheldon, Coordinator, Assessment

### UAIR | University Analytics & Institutional Research

- Ashley Hurand, Director
- Jessica Calderwood, Data Analyst



# APR WEBSITE

<http://academicaffairs.arizona.edu/apr>

- Download the APR Manual
- Sample Self-Study Reports
- List of Peer Institutions
- APR Policies
- Contact APR Management Team
- Workshop Information
- Mid-Cycle Review Information



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Academic Affairs

Academic Program Review | Accreditation | Curricular Affairs | General

Home > Academic Program Review

## Academic Program Review

**About the APR**

- APR Management Team
- APR Manual & Self-Study Report
- APR Orientation
- APR 7-Year Schedule
- Charge to Reviewers
- Mid-Cycle Reviews

The purpose of academic program review evaluations include, but are not limited to:

- quality of educational programs, in
- quality of research, creative activit
- quality of outreach activities and s
- contribution or importance of the (
- potential and future expectations

The review is intended to enhance the and opportunities; to evaluate strength development plan.

# OVERVIEW OF THE APR PROCESS

Part 1: Initial Planning	Part 2: Self-Study	Part 3: Review Committee	Part 4: Discussion/Findings	Part 5: Reports
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Attend orientation; Review APR manual</li> <li>▪ Attend Assessment &amp; Data Workshops</li> <li>▪ Discuss budget with the Dean</li> <li>▪ <b>BOOK SITE VISIT DATE</b></li> <li>▪ Review Assessment Plan with UCATT</li> <li>▪ See Appendix A for Task Timeline</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dept. Head and Dean approve self-study committee</li> <li>▪ Follow the suggested APR outline in the manual</li> <li>▪ Send draft to APR Assoc. Vice Provost for review and feedback</li> <li>▪ See Appendix B for the self-study report outline</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Nominate 10 individuals as APR Reviewers (two for each position)</li> <li>▪ Assoc. Vice Provost approves and invites members</li> <li>▪ Site visit schedule</li> <li>▪ Written report to Assoc. Vice Provost</li> <li>▪ See Appendices D, E, and F</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Final APR Wrap-up meeting with:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Unit Head,</li> <li>-Dean,</li> <li>-Senior Vice Provost</li> <li>-Associate Vice Provost</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reports sent to Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) upon request</li> <li>▪ Documented Action Plans</li> <li>▪ Evidence for institutional accreditation</li> </ul>

Mid-Cycle Reviews will occur 3 to 3 ½ years after the comprehensive APR.

# APR SELF-STUDY REPORT OUTLINE

## Refer to Appendix B for the Self-Study Report Outline

- SECTION A: Self-Study Summary
- SECTION B: Description and Goals
- SECTION C: History
- SECTION D: Academic Quality
- SECTION E: Faculty
- SECTION F: Administration
- SECTION G: Resources
- SECTION H: Undergrad Students, Degrees, Outcomes
- SECTION I: Graduate Students, Degrees, Outcomes
- SECTION J: Clinical Residency Programs
- SECTION K: Academic Outreach
- SECTION L: Collaborative Efforts
- SECTION M: Special Considerations  
(Degree Productivity)

*Serving as the foundation of the entire review process, the self-study report enables a program to evaluate its past and present efforts while setting a practical course for the future.*



## APR SELF-STUDY REPORT OUTLINE – SECTION M

### Threshold for Defining Productive Programs

Type of Degree	3-Year Degree Total
Baccalaureate	24 or more degrees
Masters	9 or more degrees
Doctorate	6 or more degrees

- SECTION M: Special Considerations  
(Degree Productivity)

*See Appendix C of the APR Manual for criteria that might support program retention.*



# APR SELF-STUDY WRITING TIPS

- Start the Self-Study now; finish 8 weeks before site visit date.
- Follow guidelines; expand on areas of specific relevance.
- Keep the report to 50-75 pages.
- Be **thorough, succinct, and avoid repetition.**
- Use graphs and tables where possible.
  - Consult with Associate Vice Provost and UAIR.
- Consider your audiences; **your peers will review this document.**
- Tap knowledge of the APR Management Group:
  - Academic Affairs | UCATT | UAIR.

Do Not Skip Self-Study Report Outline Sections.



# APR REVIEWERS

- PURPOSE | Review self-study report; interview department personnel; assess quality; make specific recommendations for improvement
- TEAM COMPOSTION | Nominate 10 Potential Reviewers
  - External Members Provide National Context (Nominate 6)
  - Internal members provide UA context (Nominate 4)
  - Provost office will select the team of five (3 external, 2 internal)
- TIME FRAME FOR SELECTION OF REVIEWERS
  - Clear site visit date with potential reviewers.
  - Discuss list with dean. Deans must approve the list of potential reviewers.
  - List and Bios of Potential Reviewers **Due to Academic Affairs by August 31.**



# APR DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS

- Final wrap-up meeting with Senior Vice Provost, Associate Vice Provost, Dean, and Unit Head/Director
- Head submits brief response to review report prior to the final meeting
- Discuss reviewer recommendations and action plans
- Identify objectives designed to be achieved over the next several years
- SVP provides written wrap-up summary to Head/Director and Dean
- Action plan progress is reviewed 3 to 3 ½ years after APR



# APR SELF-STUDY: UAIR SUPPORT

University Analytics & Institutional Research (UAIR) offers APR support through two primary means:

## **UAccess Analytics | APR Dashboard**

Tool that is managed by UAIR

## **Academic Analytics**

Tool that the UA subscribes to through a third-party company



# APR SELF-STUDY: UAIR SUPPORT

## UAccess Analytics | APR Dashboard

- Provides some of the required data (see Appendix B), serves as a starting point for the data collection process. Many departments will supplement with additional data.
- Includes a Required Institutional Dataset encompassing key metrics for students, faculty and staff. If they are relevant for your program or programs under review, **these dashboards are required to be included as an appendix in your self-study report.**
- Dashboard also provides supplemental data for each of the following sections covered within Appendix B:
  - Summary
  - Faculty
  - Unit Administration
  - Undergraduate Students
  - Graduate Students



# APR SELF-STUDY: UAIR SUPPORT

## UAccess Analytics APR Dashboard

Dashboard Menu ->  
Toolkit-> APR-> Required  
Institutional Dataset

UAccessAnalytics APR

Overview **Required Institutional Dataset** Summary (A) Faculty (E) Unit Administration (F) UGRD Students (H) GRAD Students (I)

Undergraduate Students | Graduate Students | Faculty | Staff | Space | Student Credit Hours (SCH)

To save this information for your Self-Study, you can export this entire page as an Excel file or print it as a Printable HTML file. To access these options, click on the light gray gear icon on the upper right-hand corner and choose either **Print > Printable HTML** or **Export to Excel > Export Current Page**. You can also export each analysis you see below individually. Click on the blue **Export** link at the bottom of each table or graph and extract either the image or the data behind it in a variety of different formats.

College: --Select Value-- Department Id: --Select Value-- Department: Psychology Academic Plan: --Select Value-- **Apply** **Reset**

### Required Institutional Dataset | Undergraduate Student Data

This dataset should be included as an appendix in the APR self-study and represents the following department(s):  
**Psychology (0123).**

[Export](#)

### Undergraduate Academic Plans

An academic plan is an area of study—such as a major, minor, or specialization—that is within an academic program. The data in this section represents students who were active in the primary or secondary academic plan (major) during the provided academic years.

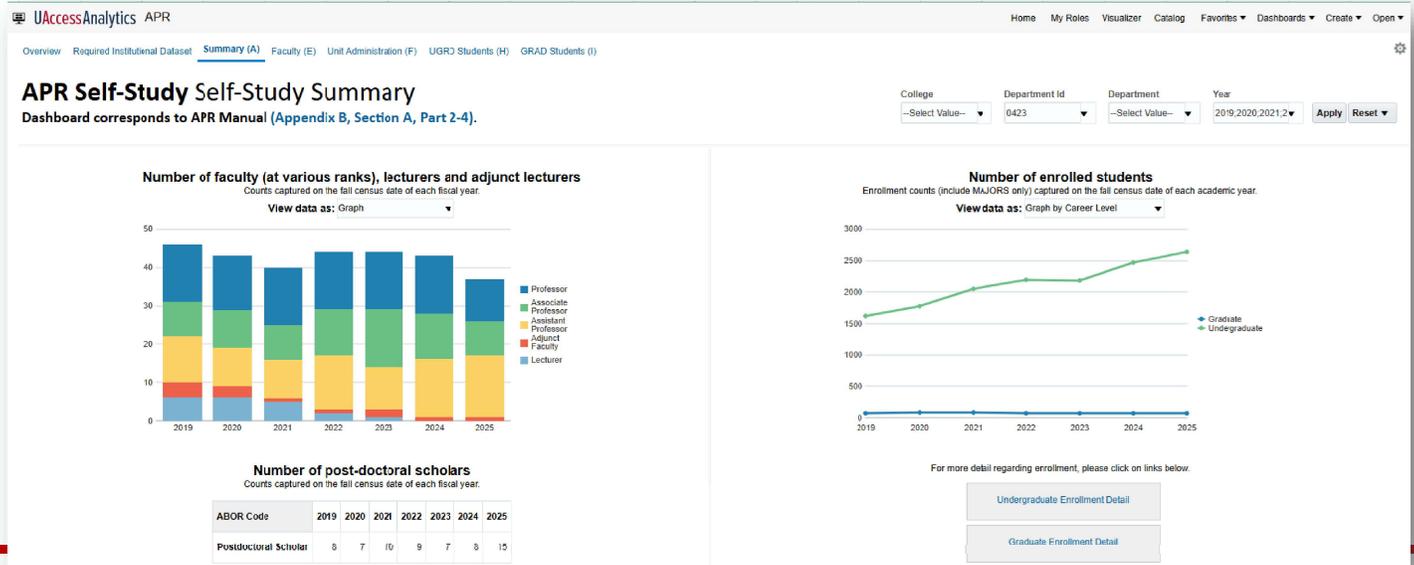
Active Academic Plans by Academic Year

Degree Level	Academic Plan Type	Academic Plan Code	Academic Plan	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Bachelors	Major	PSYCBA	Psychology	Yes						
		PSYCBS	Psychology	Yes						
		PSYSBS	Psychological Science	Yes						
	Major (Secondary)	PSYCBA2	Psychology 2	Yes						
		PSYCBS2	Psychology 2	Yes						
		PSYSBS2	Psychological Science	Yes						
	Preparation	PRPYND	Pre-Psychological Science	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Undergrad Certificate	Specialization	IHCRTU	Insights into Healthy Aging				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

[Export](#)

# APR SELF-STUDY: UAIR SUPPORT

## UAccess Analytics | APR Dashboard



# APR SELF-STUDY: UAIR SUPPORT

## Academic Analytics, Peer Comparison

- One source of data for aspirational peer comparison
- Provides data on selected faculty scholarly activity in PhD-granting programs
  - Faculty included: T/TE, C/CE and some research faculty
  - Faculty list current as of Fall 2024, will be updated to Fall 2025 in late October 2026

Activity	Sources
Journal Articles	Crossref
Honorific Awards	Awarding Agencies
Books	Baker & Taylor, The British Library
Book Chapters	Baker & Taylor
Citations	Crossref
Conference Proceedings	Crossref
Grants	Federal Funding Agencies
Patents	patentsview.org
Clinical Trials	NIH National Library of Medicine



This report contains Academic Analytics confidential and proprietary business trade secrets. This report may not be transferred or used by any person or entity other than your university. For internal use only.  
© 2022 Academic Analytics All Rights Reserved



# APR SELF-STUDY: UAIR SUPPORT

## Academic Analytics | Alumni Insight

- Job placement information (as of the time of the download) for 84.3% of PhD graduates from 2016-2025
  - Alumni Insight job placement information is looked up regularly, so information may change throughout the year
- Includes information on industry, sector, location, position

 This report contains Academic Analytics' confidential and proprietary business trade secrets. This report may not be transferred or used by any person or entity other than your university. For internal use only. © 2022 Academic Analytics. All Rights Reserved.



# APR SELF-STUDY: UAIR SUPPORT

## Next Steps...

- 1) Identify your data contact(s) for the self-study.
- 2) Data contact(s) should reach out to Jessica Calderwood directly with any assistance provisioning new users for a ccess, questions on the available dashboards, or any other data support questions that may arise.
- 3) Save the date and plan on attending the **Data Kickstart workshop May 7th.**



# APR SELF-STUDY: TEACHING & LEARNING

## University Center for Assessment, Teaching & Technology (UCATT)

### Evaluation of Teaching (Appendix G)

- Peer Observations of Teaching
- Student Course Surveys
- Departmental Self-Assessment of Teaching Quality



# APR SELF-STUDY: TEACHING & LEARNING

## University Center for Assessment, Teaching & Technology (UCATT)

### Undergraduate Students, Degree Programs, and Outcomes (Section H)

- Describe evidence-based strategies used within each degree program, including:
  - Active engagement in the classroom
  - Use of high-impact curricular practices
  - Structured learning-assistant opportunities for students
  - Structured peer-mentoring programs



# LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

## Academic Program Review (APR)

*Every 7 years*

*UCATT Consultation Available*

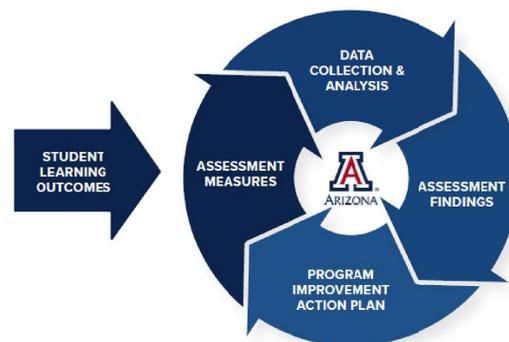
- Submission of the self-study report by the department.
- Feedback from the UCATT Assessment Team on the assessment section of the self-study.
- **Annual assessment reporting.**

**A faculty-driven process for learning outcomes assessment and program improvement.**

## Annual Assessment Reporting

*UCATT Consultation Available*

- Submission of a program-level assessment report.
- Evaluation and feedback from the UCATT Assessment Team.



# STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

## University Center for Assessment, Teaching & Technology (UCATT)

- Required annual assessment updates
- Required for Improvement of Program Quality, ABOR Summary Reports, and University Accreditation
- Required Reporting in Planning & Self-Study
  - Program Learning Outcomes
  - Curriculum Map
  - Process of Assessment
  - Assessment Plan (Measures)
  - Results and Findings
  - Actions
- Required reflection on your process of assessment

\*UCATT team members will schedule assessment support.



## NEXT STEPS

- Form a self-study committee.
- List your peer institutions.
- Appoint ONE data contact to work with UAIR.
- Book your site visit date.
- Download and review the APR manual.
- Reach out to potential reviewers.
- Review your Required Institutional Dataset (RID)
- Attend the self-study kickstart on May 7.
- Look at self-study examples on the APR website.
- Consult with UCATT and UAIR.



## REGISTER FOR THE APR KICKSTART SESSION MAY 7

- Interactive training sessions
- Live demonstrations for hands-on learning
- Collaborative data analysis activities
- Navigating and interpreting APR dashboards
- Summarizing annual learning outcomes efforts



Thursday, May 7, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Location TBD

Register: [https://uarizona.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_0090L8PJ3zX2J5I](https://uarizona.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0090L8PJ3zX2J5I)



# FALL SITE VISITS & AVAILABLE DATES

## Fall Reviews:

- Architecture
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Medical Studies
- Psychology
- Public & Applied Humanities
- Sociology
- Volunteer
- Volunteer

October				
M	T	W	Th	F
	6	7	8	9
	13	14	15	16
	20	21		
			29	30

November				
M	T	W	Th	F
	3	4		
	24	25		

December				
M	T	W	Th	F
			3	4
	8	9		



# QUESTIONS

