

Western Student Learning Results (Program Outcomes) for 2012

Source: Student

of Grads: 55

of Responses: 37

Program: Accounting

Outcome	Yes	No	Unk	NA	Result	Feedback
What did you like about this program?	37	0	0	0		
					Yes	I liked being able to learn about the accounting process and the financial statements. I thought the courses were geared to helping the students learn and understand the different career areas of accounting.
					Yes	Comprehensive projects
					Yes	I liked that the program pushed the manual side of accounting. Understanding everything that goes into properly accounting will be very helpful when learn computerized accounting programs.
					Yes	I think that I have taken a lot from my classes. Each teacher has shown me something different, even though I have gotten closer to some more than others. I feel ready to enter the workforce.
					Yes	I liked the teachers in my program and the help they provided. I also liked the way the semester layout was because it made my days there faster to go by especially when I was there almost all day.
					Yes	I really enjoyed the Accounting Program. The instructors were amazing!! I have went to a 4 year college and the relationship is so awesome!
					Yes	I really liked how the program was set up in the regional campuses
					Yes	I enjoyed the hands on experience of this course
					Yes	I enjoyed this program because the instructors were very helpful. They took time to explain things when they were not clear to me. They encouraged me when I felt like I wouldn't be able to grasp certain concepts. I really enjoyed the hands on project for this program also.
					Yes	I have learned the elements of accounting. I did not realize early into the program that the weight of an associates degree does not open many doors without extending it to acquire a Bachelors.
					Yes	I liked the teaching from both instructors Jennifer Parker and Paul Mack.
					Yes	I enjoyed working with my classmates on group projects and also enjoyed the problem solving.
					Yes	I really feels that the teachers really did their best to help us along the way for success.
					Yes	I thought every class that was need to graduate was great for me. I might not have liked some of my classes, but now that I'm working I'm thankful for all that I have learned.
					Yes	I liked how the program offered real life scenarios.
					Yes	I liked that all of the teachers were very helpful
					Yes	I was able to work out a schedule that fit my personal needs and stay at one location.

Outcome	Yes	No	Unk	NA	Result	Feedback
					Yes	I liked the Accounting program. It was definitely a program that took a lot of time and dedication. Hours and hours of homework is expected. Without putting in the time and effort needed, it would not be possible to understand the program. It feels great to have achieved my goal of graduating with an Associate in Accounting Degree.
					Yes	I like that they have a team of teacher that are knowlegable in all areas of accounting.
					Yes	That it would lead to a job in an office seting that is in demand.
					Yes	I learned many things. I feel like it was a success.
					Yes	The accounting program gave me great hands on experience in the accounting field.
					Yes	I liked how the accounting program flowed together from one semester to another. I feel that I learned everything when I was ready to learn it and was prepared to go on to the next step/course as the semesters changed.
					Yes	Teachers were helpful for the most part. Tough enough but not too tough. Learned a lot of different aspects of accounting.
					Yes	I chose this program because I like dealing with numbers and accounting.
					Yes	When I worked at a previous employer I really liked working in accounts payable/receiving and payroll. It took me awhile to go back to school to learn more on the subjects, but I finally did. I know have more knowledge of what I knew and have learned new ideas along the way.
					Yes	It gave hands on experience and not just theory
					Yes	How cost is so important in the success of a business. The instructors explained the accounting process in a professional and manageable learning way.
					Yes	I especially liked the classes that used actual accounting software because I feel like it gave me some experience of what I would be doing if I was actually employed in an accounting related position.
					Yes	I liked that the classes were offered at night and at the extened campuses. It helped me be able to work full time to be able to afford the program.
What would you change about this program?	37	100.00%	0	0	0	
					Yes	Being able to take different classes at different times.
					Yes	I would increase the learning of quickbooks for computerized accounting.
					Yes	I would not change anything
					Yes	I don't know that I would change anything about the program. Some of the projects that were given were very challenging, and time consuming however, I feel that without them I would not have achieved learning as much as I did. Some of the time restraints made things difficult to achieve by the due date, but I did it, and I understand that with only 16 weeks in a semester, things have to move quickly.
					Yes	I would change nothing. It seemed to work out nicely
					Yes	Nothing I really enjoyed my experiance at western technical college.

Outcome	Yes	No	Unk	NA	Result	Feedback
	Yes					The way each instructor grades completely different. one teacher shouldn't let a group of students work together while the other teacher does not allow it also.
	Yes					I did not like how the Cost 2 project was so detailed. I think that there was way to much paper that neede to be handed for group and individual combined. Other than that I liked the whole program.
	Yes					I dont think I would change anything. There were two classes that I found a bit similiar and the two classes were the professional development for the very first semester and then the technical reporting. I know classes have changed since I have entered the field, but those two classes I would maybe change so they werent so similiar to each other or maybe combine both of them.
	Yes					I would no change the program. I felt that the program was set up in a way that students can succeed.
	Yes					I would do more computerized payroll, and having students work with more accounts receivable and accounts payable. I think that having students do internships would be a plus. A lot of places are looking for experience.
	Yes					I would have higher quality teachers.
	Yes					I wish we could have prevented some of the instructors from leaving and switching instructors during the semester. We had a few semesters where our instructor changed two or three times. It was hard to learn during those semesters because each instructor taught the information in a different manner. A few instructs were not as helpful teaching the required information in order for us to learn the material effectively.
	Yes					Offer more online courses and reduce paper use in the second year classes.
	Yes					More focus on the area of written communication throughout the curriculum.
	Yes					Nothing
	Yes					Longer times for some of the examinations would be helpful.
	Yes					Nothing
	Yes					I would have liked to not have to take any online classes. I do not do well with online only classes. It would have been nice to have the option to choose face to face or combined for every class.
	Yes					Even though I liked learning the manual part of accounting, I would have liked to incorporate more computerized accounting programs.
	Yes					More online options
	Yes					I would like to have seen the program not be so fast paced, it was very hard to keep up with homework at times.
	Yes					I would change the layout of the classes some of them I feel that I should not have taken right away following the layout guide and I also think that cost accounting two should be more credits as a class.
	Yes					I really like that maybe they should expand this program. Like have more teacher to teach instead of just one or two. But overall the program itself don't need any improvement.
	Yes					I think it might be better if students could enter the program like nursing students do. Each group works together throughout the core part of the program and becomes more comfortable asking questions and participating in group projects.
	Yes					Would prefer not to take the accounting information systems class. Was very dry and don't feel as if I have learned much from that class

Outcome	Yes	No	Unk	NA	Result	Feedback
					Yes	The program is a good program. I have learned a great deal and hope to apply it soon.
					Yes	I would not change much in the accounting program as a whole, mostly class content for some classes.
					Yes	Third Semester Cost I and Accounting III should not be on the same day or behind each other too much to take in all at one time
					Yes	Maybe including an internship
					Yes	I wish Spreadsheets would have had projects. I felt that a lot of useless information was taught.
Use effective communication skills.	37	0	0	0		
					Yes	Communication is an important part of learning. I used my communication skills as much as I could throughout the years I attended.
					Yes	Written communication skills can be enhanced to a more adequate professional level.
					Yes	I have always liked my communication skills. However, the program has definitely improved my ability to communicate company and financial performance.
					Yes	Many papers that were graded on grammar and spelling. Many presentations.
					Yes	I feel that I communicated well with instructors, and they in turn communicated back with me. There was a teacher who did sometimes make students feel uncomfortable asking questions because of his responses however, I was more concerned with making sure I could achieve my goals in this program, and asked anyway.
					Yes	My core courses transferred from a previous institution, but the incorporation of the applied use of the various forms used in communicating with one another was a good reinforcement of the ability and skill set with which to do this successfully.
					Yes	I feel I did learn effective communication skills in written communications and speech classes.
					Yes	I do believe that Jim Murry could be more specific with his instructions.
					Yes	I learned to demonstrate my writing skills and communicate effectively.
					Yes	Yes and a lot
					Yes	I feel I have achieved the student learning outcome for effective communication skills.
					Yes	Great!
					Yes	In today's business world I have learned how important communication skills have become.
					Yes	I think that the effective communication skills is what needed to be touch base on. I feel like I still have a hard time using effective communication skill in class; between teacher and I.
					Yes	The speech class was very helpful with Amery Bodelson.
					Yes	Good communication
					Yes	all instructors did a good job.
					Yes	I have learned to use effective communication skills. In almost every class I participated in I was required to write some type of written assignment.

Outcome	Yes	No	Unk	NA	Result	Feedback
					Yes	Yes I have become a better communicator through email and in person
					Yes	I never really had trouble communicating with people, but I have learned a few tricks along the way. There is always room for improvement.
					Yes	I feel that we were offered many assignments that helped us to effectively use our communication skills. Sometimes, though, the instructors preferences got in the way of truly learning to communicate in an effective manner, based on the differences between the students and the instructors preferable learning styles.
					Yes	Email and ITV work well for me. I was also able to call an instructor at his home.
Apply mathematical concepts.	37	0	0	0	100.00%	
					Yes	I learned how to apply mathematical concepts in all of my accounting classes, its crazy to think about how much I learned over the years.
					Yes	I feel I have learned to apply mathematical concepts effectively.
					Yes	The math course and the math covered in the early accounting classes are good.
					Yes	The accounting program definitely applied mathematical concepts from day one to graduation day.
					Yes	MOst definately have achieved this concept. Have a very good understanding of accounting
					Yes	What is accounting if not based in math. Being able to know how to determine what it is that you are looking for when given specific information and how to use that information to give you the needed answer is continually re-inforced.
					Yes	Having the accounting classes gave me the opportunity to apply many different mathematical concepts.
					Yes	I learned many concepts.
					Yes	As much as accountants use
					Yes	The concepts were communicated greatly and I understood all concepts at the end of each semester and continuing to the end of the program.
					Yes	Definately. There is a lot of math concepts that follow with the accounting classes.
					Yes	Business Math helped me through all my accounting classes and concepts were used.
					Yes	I feel that I had good mathematical skills before entering this program, but I certainly needed a refresher on some things, which I received in my Math W/Business Applications class.
					Yes	I love math, so I would have liked to see more mathematical concepts, but in today's world computers have pretty much taken the place of manual calculations.
					Yes	Well done. This is my greatest weakness yet I got through without any problems.
					Yes	Yes using different costing methods was interesting
					Yes	mostly all classes did a great job.
					Yes	Had to apply math in all subjects even the ones I didn't think possible.
					Yes	I'm okay on this part; this part teacher did great on.

Outcome	Yes	No	Unk	NA	Result	Feedback
Transfer social and natural science theories into practical applications.	35 94.59%	2 5.41%	0	0		
	Yes					By the end project, this was most evident. It might help to have an earlier project that pulls together everything learned to that point, instead of waiting until the end of the semester.
	Yes					The general education classes that were part of this program allowed me to apply my knowledge practically in the environment around me.
	Yes					I feel that I have learned these concepts.
	Yes					I have used the skills used in the social and natural sciences classes at work most everyday when dealing with customers and employees.
	Yes					I feel that this makes the whole learning experience better when you can apply real life situations and elaborate on them with what you are learning in the classroom. It is more of a hands on activity.
	Yes					This is successfully achieved through the project that were completed through the different courses. At the time of doing them (payroll, AP, and cost) we may not have seen the big picture, but practical application is the best learning tool there is.
	Yes					I think that this is based on how the student would translated. For me, I have hard time transfer theories into application. I thing that this part might need to be improve on.
	Yes					My ethics class definitely covered this.
	Yes					The program entailed a hands on project that was very useful in the understanding of the accounting process. Most of the core classes also required a competency assignment that proved mastery.
Demonstrate ability to think critically.	37 100.00%	0	0	0		
	Yes					I believe that I have been thinking critically from the start of the this program. All of the case studies and annual reports have offered ample ability for each student to think critically.
	Yes					Case analysis is a good class, but it doesn't quite give students the critical thinking skills needed. More independent projects are needed.
	Yes					did a good job with this.
	Yes					I feel that critical thinking is demonstrated in every class I participated in.
	Yes					The case and analysis class did a good job of this.
	Yes					I think this area has been adequately assessed throughout the curriculum.
	Yes					The entire program had me thinking critically!
	Yes					Did learn the skills in classes and use them daily at work.
	Yes					Think critically is really hard for me. I only see whats is there and nothing else. I really do want this area to be improve on a little bit more so students that don't really get it at first still have time to improve them selves.
	Yes					Classes were helpful, but as a returning adult, I think I had this down.
	Yes					Accounting certainly takes the ability to think critically in order to be successful. I feel I was able to enhance my skills through this program.
	Yes					Accounting deals greatly with thinking critically and I think I was forced to think critically with almost every task.

Outcome	Yes	No	Unk	NA	Result	Feedback
					Yes	Yes in all my accounting classes I feel I used my critical thinking skills.
					Yes	One of the greatest outcomes I have received from my time at Western, is to focus on what is being asked. It is so easy to read into something, but the need to zero in on what exactly is being asked is vital!
					Yes	You must be able to think critically in accounting. There are many concepts that there are not answers to and you will need to your thoughts and ideas as well as research for questions that clients may have for you.
					Yes	I feel very confident in my ability to look at the financial status of a company and make a fair assessment. I also believe I could provide effective feedback for clients.
Demonstrate ability to value self and work ethically with others in a diverse population.	37 100.00%	0	0	0		
					Yes	I had the chance to work with others in many of my classes. I worked on group projects and participated in class discussions and was able to work together as a team. I take pride in my work and always set a high goal for myself.
					Yes	I feel that I look at things more ethically at work since taking classes.
					Yes	I think this offered me to help other students who may not have the ability to overcome diversity. When you work in groups, you learn by working with other students and it is helpful when you enter a job working with teams.
					Yes	I feel I had these skills already, but my Ethics and Diversity class was a plus also.
					Yes	Everyone comes from a different background and have different learning techniques. Sometimes it is nice to see how their techniques are compared to yours.
					Yes	It was difficult to work with another student from a different campus at times
					Yes	I didn't really learn to do this at school, but I did have plenty of opportunity to work with diversity.
					Yes	I feel I have achieved this.
					Yes	Western applies this well throughout all of the courses by interacting the students in discussions and projects. Helping everyone to feel the importance of working together for the benefit of everyone.
					Yes	We were definitely a diverse group of students, especially comparing the day and night students. All in all, we worked together, were able to get along, and worked ethically.
					Yes	There is a great focus on ethics in westerns program. This is vital to the program
					Yes	This program provide many opportunities for working with others.
					Yes	They did great on this part.
					Yes	Yes I like working with others because it gives you a different perspective sometimes..
Use technology effectively.	36 97.30%	1 2.70%	0	0		
					Yes	We were offered classes in accounting software and Microsoft software. This has helped us to effectively use technology.

Outcome	Yes	No	Unk	NA	Result	Feedback
					Yes	I would like to use more computerized accounting programs within the courses.
					Yes	More online based classes and less paper based homework would help.
					Yes	There were several classes geared toward the changing of technology.
					Yes	What isn't done a computer in this day and age. I have definitely grown in my knowledge of technology and how to apply it in various formats.
					Yes	Using technology for everything was awesome. I like having to use all of that. Blackboard is awesome!!
					Yes	This part is okay. No improvement necessary.
					Yes	Great help.
					Yes	I have learned many new things about technology. My experience has educated me on basic computer skills and gave me experience and knowledge of basic programs used.
					Yes	In almost all of my classes I feel it used technology and it was very helpful and also helped me with my skills.
					Yes	Constantly using technology.
					Yes	I have achieved this goal, but it would be nice to see more use of accounting software in the program in addition to learning the processes.
					Yes	We were continuously using technology.
					Yes	I love using the computer programs for all classes.
					Yes	Learned more about excel, word and powerpoint
					Yes	Yes, there is new technology being developed all the time. Staying up to date on technology is only going to get you further.
					Yes	I learned some new skills in Excel and Word above what I already knew.
					Yes	I was capable of this before, but definitely learned more in my Accounting Spreadsheets class.
Make decisions that incorporate the importance of sustainability	36	97.30%	1	2.70%	0	0
					Yes	Sustainability was covered but it never seemed like a keystone of the project.
					Yes	Decision isn't something that I would like to deal with because I don't really speak my mind. But I want this area to also be improve on.
					Yes	There has been great input into ethics and looking at the 'big' picture, the future.
					Yes	I feel I have done this at work.
					Yes	Yes
					Yes	During my final class in cost accounting, I was able to fully learn the importance of sustainability through my teammates.
					Yes	Less paper should be used and students should be required to take a class in sustainability.
Process financial transactions throughout the accounting cycle	37	100.00%	0		0	0
					Yes	Great

Outcome	Yes	No	Unk	NA	Result	Feedback
					Yes	Processing financial transactions have definitely been instilled in us from day one. I feel confident that every student, including myself, has the ability to process financial transactions.
					Yes	At the very beginning of accounting, I needed a tutor. I didnt give myself enough credit....I knew what I was doing, but just needed the encouragement. Yes, processing transactions will come natural after you have completed the two years.
					Yes	I achieved this with the help of the wonderful regional teachers
					Yes	The whole program required this
					Yes	In most classes I learned a lot and it stuck with me throughout the whole time.
					Yes	Most definitely. That was the goal of the whole program.
					Yes	Great.
					Yes	I feel I could process financial transactions, and if needed I would know where to find help.
					Yes	I stated earlier that the project required throughout the various classes have been a very good experience. That being said, the final building block is the cost II project is a perfect combination to show and experience how things fit together.
					Yes	I think that the cost accounting process was harder to do but by the end of the project I understood the process.
					Yes	AP 1 & 2 do a great job of drilling these in our mind.
					Yes	Yes, I can process financial transactions throughout the accounting cycle. My homework, in class discussions, quizzes, tests, and assessments gave me a lot of practice and a good understanding.
					Yes	I have not been this far in my work history but I feel I have the knowledge to do this in a work setting.
					Yes	well applied in the program.
					Yes	It was a long process, but it is better to understand.
					Yes	The curriculum is very thorough and detail, covering all aspects of accounting.
Analyze financial and business information to support planning and decision making	37	100.00%	0	0	0	
					Yes	This part is good.
					Yes	I have the necessary skills to do this in a work setting. Have not used it currently.
					Yes	Many courses offered us the ability to plan and make decisions while analyzing financial and business information. I feel confident that I have achieved this learning outcome.
					Yes	I feel I have learned a lot about business analysis through the project in Cost Accounting II with Paul Mack. He is an excellent instructor and one that I have learned the most from.
					Yes	This is was best shown to me during the Accounting Principles III annual report project.
					Yes	Doing assingments give one the practice and sense of how things work, but the project give a person the ability to connect all the dots into one big picture.
					Yes	Excellent

Outcome	Yes	No	Unk	NA	Result	Feedback
					Yes	Support planning and decision making is something that you will need to do throughout any career. Now that I have completed my accounting degree, these will come natural as I begin my career.
					Yes	Absolutely.
					Yes	Yes analyzing a lot of stuff to help make decisions
					Yes	Cost accounting 2 put it all together because of the project completed in the class. What a great way to put everything learned throughout my education together. I thought the project was more like an overall assessment of the accounting program. I really thought this helped bring everything together and learned that planning and decision making are very important. You must analyze information in order to be successful.
Perform payroll preparation, reporting, and analysis tasks	37 100.00%	0	0	0		
					Yes	One of my most favorite areas of accounting is payroll. I learned a lot and enjoyed it.
					Yes	The courses were really good in making the information memorable.
					Yes	I have a better understanding of the payroll process and feel I could do this if asked to at work.
					Yes	Payroll is processed by students on many different levels, on several different courses.
					Yes	The payroll project
					Yes	Payroll was my favorite part of the accounting program, Jenny Parker did an excellent job for this class.
					Yes	I loved payroll the most...This is something that I wil continue to learn.
					Yes	yes
					Yes	I had a little confusion with this class and it got confusing because we had a new teacher than expected and did not seem all familiar with the class.
					Yes	I had this class and sometime I feels that the teacher don't even understand how to teach it. So its really hard for me to even understand it. I could perform the tasks but I think that this area could need some improvement on.
					Yes	Yes. Again, the projects great help set the ability to do, report and draw conclusions.
					Yes	The payroll class was one of my favorites. I thought the project was very useful and would do it all over again if I could. I loved the project and the class.
					Yes	Even though it has been two years since my initial payroll course, I still have the knowledge to perform payroll preparation, reporting, and analysis tasks. Many courses have added small reviews of payroll in the courses final assessment assignments.
Perform cost accounting preparation, reporting, and analysis tasks	37 100.00%	0	0	0		
					Yes	Yes.
					Yes	I will say I don't like this class, but it is something we need to know!

Outcome	Yes	No	Unk	NA	Result	Feedback
					Yes	I have performed cost accounting preparations, reporting, and analysis tasks. I did extremely well in the two cost courses. However, I feel that the subject matter was a little harder to grasp and don't think that this area is right for me in the business world.
					Yes	Yes multiple projects
					Yes	Cost II goes above and beyond just cost accounting. It contains many parts of business management also. Principles and concepts of cost accounting is very well addressed and covered.
					Yes	The cost II project was a great tie in for the aspect of the cost accounting process.
					Yes	General knowledge. Difficult topic
					Yes	I didn't think that I would like cost accounting, but I did find that I liked the Cost 2 project most. Cost 1 was pretty boring, but needed.
					Yes	yes-- good project
					Yes	Struggled but got it in the end.
					Yes	The cost class is good, but very hard to understand. The book is horrible and the cost project is what helps students the most.
					Yes	I have a better understanding of the cost accounting process and have not used in work.
					Yes	I'm able to do this part.
Perform organization and/or individual tax accounting preparation, reporting, and analysis tasks	37	100.00%	0	0	0	
					Yes	I was able to do these task by the end of tax class.
					Yes	I love being able to put numbers together and the thought process. Trying to remember where everything goes and on what form(s), challenging, but well worth the learning experience
					Yes	I truly enjoyed the tax accounting course. I learned a lot of valuable information that I was able to also apply to my personal life. I look forward to one day preparing taxes for others.
					Yes	I have learned this objective through the classes.
					Yes	I knew little to nothing about income taxes before my income tax class. I learned a lot in the class and know that it will help me at my new job. I enjoyed the class and learned the most by completing the homework, in class discussions, and tests. Paul is a good teacher, I really enjoyed having him as an instructor.
					Yes	they should teach state taxes also
					Yes	This was stressful but very helpful. One regret is that we did not take the time to go over the exam on the 1040 preparation to see where we made mistakes.
					Yes	This class I felt went way to quickly for what you needed to learn.
					Yes	Projects
					Yes	Great classes
					Yes	I enjoyed tax class and learned a lot. Tax is certainly more difficult due to all of the laws governing it and that they change very often.
Identify internal controls to reduce risk	37	100.00%	0	0	0	
					Yes	Great work assigned
					Yes	I am able to identify internal control risks.
					Yes	There is a huge focus on internal controls

Outcome	Yes	No	Unk	NA	Result	Feedback
					Yes	This was accomplished in a few area's. InfoSystems had a nice chapter on this, but everyone in the class was more focused on the technical writing aspects of discussions than the discussions themselves. Learning was lost at the expense of technical writing.
					Yes	Yes many different things to learn about
					Yes	Internal controls is still fuzz to me; I mean I could still identify some but not all of it. This can also be improve on.
					Yes	Identifying internal controls really helped to hone my critical thinking, decision-making, and analyzing skills. I feel that I have achieved this learning outcome.
					Yes	Internal controls are essential in the success of any business.
					Yes	Most effectively realized during the Cost II project.
					Yes	I feel learning about internal controls has been really beneficial throughout the courses. I like that we have touched on internal controls in almost every class.
Aggregate Assessment of Achievement	551	99.28%	4	0.72%	0	0