Process for Developing an Assessment Plan

What is assessment?

Suskie (2004), pg. 3--“Assessment is the ongoing process of:

- Establishing clear, measurable expected outcomes of student learning.
- Ensuring that students have sufficient opportunities to achieve those outcomes.
- Systematically gathering, analyzing, and interpreting evidence to determine how well student learning matches our expectations.
- Using the resulting information to understand and improve student learning.”

Step 1: Determine the purpose of the assessment.
What do you want it to achieve?
What should be the scope of the assessment?

Step 2: Establish values, vision, and mission statement.
Values: What is important to the institution and to program?
Vision: What is your aspiration for the program? Where do you want it to be? What do you want it to look like ideally?
Mission: Descriptive statement of what the program does, with whom, and how.

Step 3: Identify programmatic goals that are directly related to the mission. These are general expectations regarding program delivery.

Step 4: Identify specific student learning outcomes.

Step 5: Map opportunities for students to achieve each learning outcome and when.

Step 6: Define measures for each outcome.

Step 7: Determine how measures will be evaluated.

Other considerations:
- What resources will be needed to carry out the assessment?
- Who will be responsible for collecting and analyzing the data?
- How will the data be used?
- Who will data be shared with and how often?

Assessment Resources
- OCC assessment plan template & rubric
- SLAC website: https://intranet.owens.edu/committees/outcomes/index.html