



AUBURN

Office of the Provost

Academic Insight

Newsletter



The year 2021 brought about welcome changes for the Office of Academic Insight! We moved out of the basement of Foy and into a newly renovated space on the third floor of Mary Martin Hall. Hello sunshine! We welcomed a new Assistant Director, Dr. Dory Thompson, who provides assessment support to all degree programs across campus and leads assessment-centered educational development for Auburn University faculty and staff. We also welcomed new student employees, Marla Zappa, Kristen Casey, Kendall Mcgoey, and Sean Oconnor. Beyond some great staffing additions, we are excited to share with you the Office of Academic Insight's initiatives from 2021.





Director Katie Boyd, PhD

In July, the Office of Academic Insight facilitated the sixth annual Meta-Assessment Institute and invited 14 faculty to provide feedback to peers about the quality of their assessment practices. We are gearing up for another busy year in which we will collect one additional round of assessment reports before Auburn University reports to our accreditor, SACSCOC (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges).

In the last year, the Office of Academic Assessment has been renamed. What was previously the Office of Academic Assessment is now the Office of Academic Insight. As the office has found new ways to support the strategic mission of Auburn University, so has the office mission expanded. Our new mission can be found on our rebranded website: <http://auburn.edu/academic/provost/academic-insight/>

This change brings about new work for the Office of Academic Insight, including now coordinating an incoming freshman course (Connecting the Creed) and Alumni Survey (the National Alumni Career Mobility Survey). It also includes the creation of our Insight Lab. The Insight Lab will conduct applied educational research studies to support student achievement initiatives and Auburn University's next QEP (currently in development). We look forward to providing support for data-informed decision making and facilitating improvement initiatives across all levels of the institution. We soon hope to hire two Senior Analysts to work with a team of graduate assistants in providing this unique service and hope to continue to provide opportunities for programs, units, and colleges to engage with the myriad of data being collected in our Connecting the Creed and Creed to Succeed courses.

As has always been the case, the Office of Academic Insight is here to help and support the university to improve student learning and achievement. Should you wish to explore support options further, just give us a call or email!

Talk with you soon,
Katie



Assistant Director Dory Thompson, PhD



Dory started working at Auburn as the Assistant Director of Academic Assessment on March 1, 2021. She supports the assessment of student learning across Auburn's twelve academic colleges and 300+ academic degree programs. She coordinates and leads Auburn's internal assessment feedback system and annual Meta-Assessment Institute. In addition, Dory consults with faculty and creates professional development events to support high quality assessment practices and learning improvement initiatives. Prior to joining this office, Dory was the Assistant Director of Assessment at Kansas State University, where she assisted with program and college-level accreditation and student learning assessment. Dory earned her PhD in Music Education from the University of Georgia, where she specialized in educational and music psychology as well as educational measurement and assessment. Her husband, Eric, is a high school band director in the area, and they have a 1-year old son, Henry





Updates & Resources

THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC INSIGHT IS EXPANDING!

The Office of Academic Insight is hiring two qualified senior analysts. Reporting to the Director of Academic Insight, the Senior Analyst for Educational Research will advance a program of analytical work involving quantitative and qualitative institutional data in support of Auburn University's mission, strategic plan, and next Quality Enhancement Plan. The Senior Analyst(s) will collaborate within a small team of full time and part time employees and independently identify research questions, analyze data, uncover learning and success gaps, communicate findings and facilitate data-informed conversations about programming. Specifically, the Senior Analyst will be a member of an applied research lab and responsible for efficient and effective delivery of results associated with student achievement data collected within Auburn University's senior graduation course, Creed to Succeed (among other data sources).

We are also seeking to fill the role of Coordinator, Data Collection & Analyst. This position will oversee the First Destination Survey data collection and coordination. This includes capturing student career outcomes for recent graduates and the analysis for the required reporting to the National Association of Colleges and Employers.

UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

February 17th: Assessing Student Learning in Certificate Program

March 2nd: Developing an Exemplary Action Plan

March 8th: Developing an Exemplary Action Plan

EXCEL WORKSHOP

During the Fall semester of 2021, the Office of Academic Insight presented an Excel for Assessment Professionals workshop series, geared toward faculty and staff who use Excel for collecting and organizing data. Ana Kriletic, a graduate assistant in the office and PhD student in Industrial and Organizational Psychology, led this series through both an in-person series and a virtual series. This workshop gave participants a number of strategies to be more efficient in their work with Excel and explored a variety of ways to visually present data to potential stakeholders. The virtual workshops have been recorded and will later be available on the Office of Academic Insight's website.

REQUESTING DATA

The Office of Academic Assessment currently archives all campus engagement and first destination data on a semester by semester basis. If you are interested in accessing this data, please let us know by emailing kbb0035@auburn.edu. The data has been visually represented in Excel-based dashboards and the raw data can be disaggregated down to the major level.



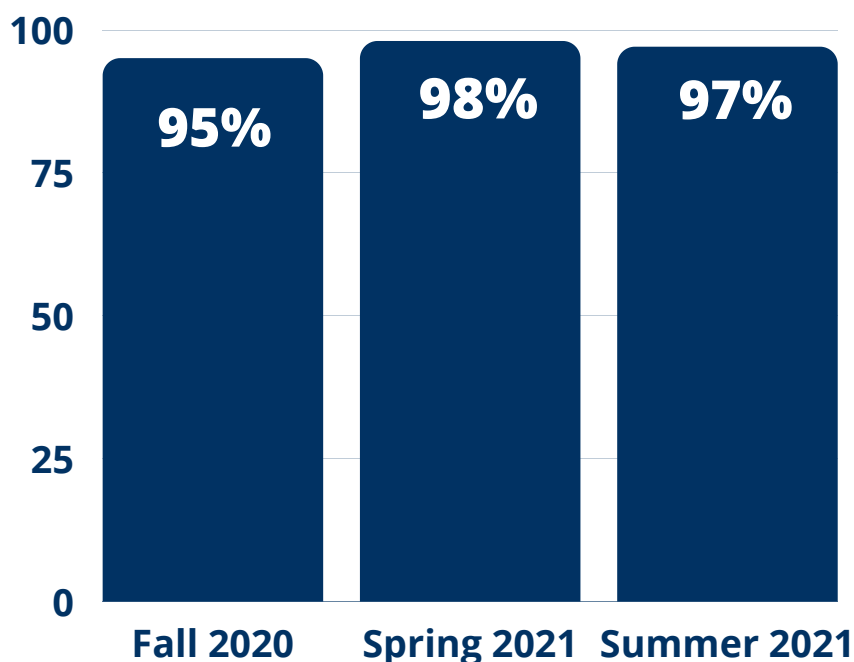
In Fall 2020, the UNIV 4AA0 course was rebranded to
"Creed to Succeed"



The course went through a full re-brand that included new materials for academic advisors, new graphics, and an improved Canvas landing page for the course.

Course Completion Rates

The Office of Academic Insight tracks participation in the Creed to Succeed course each semester. Participation remains high with more than 95% of students completing each course component, each semester.








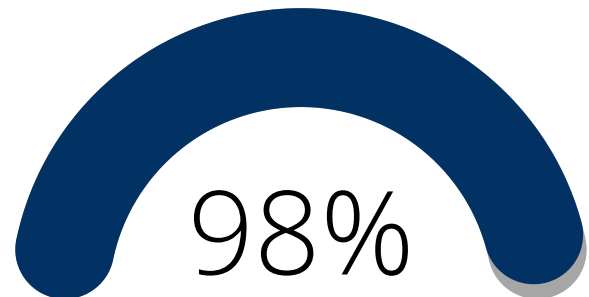
CONNECTING the Creed

TO YOUR SUCCESS

ASSESSMENTS: CONNECTING THE CREED TO YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF...

<p>Financial Concepts</p>  <p>Est. Time: 10-15 min</p>	<p>Civics Concepts</p>  <p>Est. Time: 25-30 min</p>	<p>Mental Health & Physical Well-being Concepts</p>  <p>Est. Time 5-10 min</p>	<p>Information Literacy Concepts</p>  <p>NOW OPEN!</p>
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Launched in 2020, Auburn's Connecting the Creed program aims to enhance students' personal qualities, experiences, and life skills across areas of financial wellness, mental health and physical well-being, civic literacy, and information literacy. By emphasizing the values personified by the Auburn Creed, this program highlights specific areas of personal development critical to inspiring and preparing our students for life and careers. All incoming undergraduate students are required to complete four assessments.



During Summer 2021, incoming students completed all course components at a rate of 98%!