

Looking at Subject-Specific Learning Outcomes by Involving Students and Staff Members

A method of identifying outcomes for the courses offered by the Department of “Curriculum and Instruction” is developed, it involves graduating students and staff members’ participation in a series of expert discussion and recruitment of different voices which resulted to a set of C&I subject-specific learning outcomes in Phase I. In Phase II, the five identified subject-specific outcomes are used to check on the courses C&I offered; it eventually developed insights for course development and brought issues with regard to teacher education.

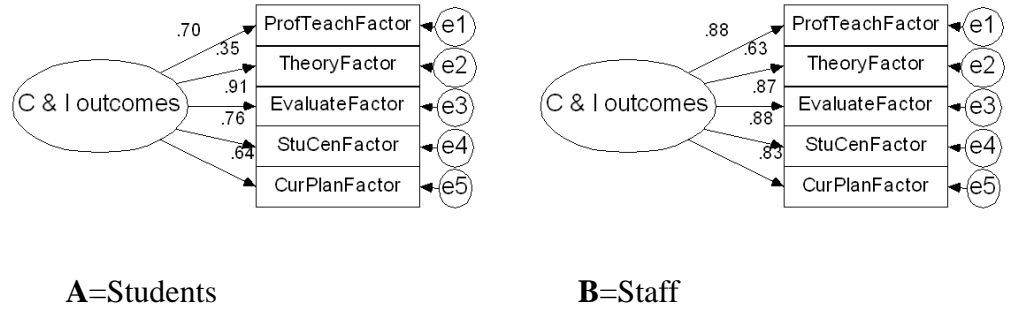
The Process and Method of Looking for learning outcomes of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the Hong Kong Institute of Education

Project Title	Developing C&I Subject Outcomes through Whole Department Participation
Team Member(s)	Dr Lam Bick Har Dr Tsui Kwok Tung Dr Brown, Gavin [#] Dr Deneen, Christopher [#] <i>#Investigator who had served in HKIEd</i>
Project Duration	1/12/2009 - 30/4/2011

<p>Objectives / Abstract</p>	<p>This teaching development project covers two phases of study. In phase I, we investigated a method of identifying subject learning outcomes (SLOs) that included student voices. A survey of academic staff ($n=16$) and students ($n=86$) within the Department of Curriculum and Instruction (C&I) was carried out after a Delphi study where academic staff generated a list of potential outcomes. Exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis generated a 5-factor solution (i.e., Teacher Professionalism, Student-Centered Pedagogical Practices, Assessment and Evaluation, Curriculum Planning, and Curriculum Theory and Knowledge) as five SLOs for C&I. In phase II, content analysis was conducted to map the five SLO factors onto the curriculum content in terms of expected learning outcomes, course content and assessment as stipulated in the formal curriculum of a set of 14 compulsory courses offered by C&I. The results of the mapping exercise were presented in a series of radar charts, which shows the course curriculum components. The methods developed from the study could be adopted as useful tools for curriculum evaluation; results of the study also have implications for teacher education programme development.</p>
<p>Impacts on Student Learning/ Teaching and Learning Development</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A two-stage method of investigation is developed which comprises a Delphi study of academic staff responses in stage one, and a survey to collect responses from graduating undergraduate students and C&I faculty members in stage two. The method can be replicated to generate subject outcomes for other higher institutions. 2. A series of radar charts are plotted to show the breadth and depth of SLO components in courses offered by C&I in both the BEd and PGDE programmes, which make implications for programme planning. 3. The involvement of students in the process of SLOs development enhances the culture of responsiveness to the educational needs of students. 4. The deliberation process is a beneficial outcome of increased collaboration and collegiality; it is also a strong support to organizational development.

<p>Dissemination of Results and Deliverables</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lam, B. H., & Tsui, K. T. (2012, February). <i>Studying Subject Learning Outcomes and Methods to Ensure Effective OBL Implementation</i>. Paper presented at the OBL Dissemination Series: Seminar, Hong Kong. • Lam, B. H., Tsui, K. T., Brown, G., & Deneen, C. (2011, June). The espoused outcomes and enacted course delivery of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. Paper presented at the Departmental Conference of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Hong Kong.. • Lam, B. H., Brown, G., Tsui, K. T., & Deneen, C. (2010, Dec). Teachers and Students Participated in Outcome Development. Paper presented at the 2nd East Asian <i>International Conference on Teacher Education Research</i>. • Lam, B. H., Tsui, K. T., Brown, G., Deneen, C., & Yan, H. F. (2010, June). <i>Developing C&I Subject Outcomes through Whole Department Participation</i>. Paper presented at the Departmental Conference of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Macau.
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Figure 1. Conceptually trimmed single factor model of C&I department outcomes.



Note: Standardised values shown after constraining measurement weights to be equivalent.

Figure 2 The Coverage of the SLO factors of the PGDE Programme

Figures

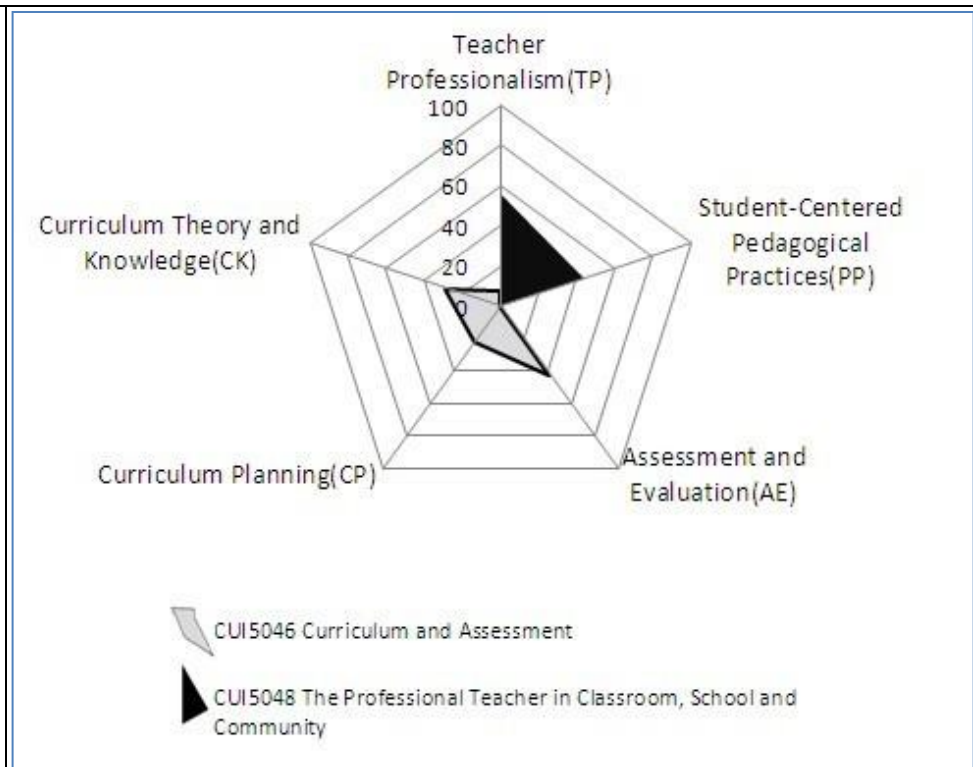


Figure 3 The Coverage of the SLO factors of the Bachelor of Education Programme

