In New Mexico, all post-secondary institutions are required to assess five essential skills that students in general education (GE) programs are expected to develop over time:

- Communication
- Quantitative Reasoning
- Personal & Social Responsibility
- Information & Digital Literacy
- Critical Thinking

The UNM Office of Assessment & APR (OAAPR) assessed four essential skills (all except Critical Thinking) in the first year of a three-year assessment cycle using individual skill rubrics for submitted artifacts.

Artifacts served as representative samples of each assessed skill and were rated on a rubric scale where 0 = No Evidence; 1 = Emerging (beginning college-level); 2 = Developing (completing general education-level); and 3 = Proficient (completing B.A./B.S.-level). To access the full rubrics for each skill, click here.

728 student artifacts were submitted from 720 students.

- **Course Modality**
  - 68% Face-to-Face
  - 29% Online/AOP
  - 3% Hybrid

- **Course Level**
  - 76% 1000-level
  - 24% 2000-level

### AY 22-23 Essential Skills Ratings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Overall Average Rating</th>
<th>All Artifacts</th>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Overall Average Rating</th>
<th>All Artifacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication (COM)</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>n=236</td>
<td>Personal &amp; Social Responsibility (PSR)</td>
<td>1.75</td>
<td>n=145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COM was rated as a DEVELOPING essential skill</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PSR was rated as an EMERGING essential skill</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantitative Reasoning (QR)</td>
<td>2.01</td>
<td>n=200</td>
<td>Information &amp; Digital Literacy (IDL)</td>
<td>1.78</td>
<td>n=147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QR was rated as a DEVELOPING essential skill</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>IDL was rated as an EMERGING essential skill</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key Point:** All skills increased from 1000-level to 2000-level courses, suggesting development of GE skills.

### Key Point: Artifacts that were aligned with the essential skill rubrics and dimensions rated much higher than unaligned artifacts that were submitted.

Ratings reflect many variables, including student performance, alignment of course assignment, assessment rubric, and selected rubric dimensions. The OAAPR continues to work with campus partners to help equip instructors with essential skill development in their courses. The full GE assessment report can be found here. Questions? Please visit our website here or email us at assess@unm.edu.