Destination Accreditation Self Study 2013

CROSSWALK



Criterion One. Mission

Northern's mission is clear and articulated publicly; it guides the institution's operations.

New Criterian/Care Component	Evidence for Fulfillment of Criterion	Location i	in Self Study
New Criterion/Core Component		Former Criterion	Page Number(s)
Core Component -1.A . Northern's mission is broadly understood within the institution and guides its operations.	• Mission and vision statements were revised in 2011 through a collaborative process and approved by the Board to reflect increased focus on student success. (1.A.1)	• 1.a., 1.c	• C1-24, C1-31
	• Career, transfer, developmental and workforce programs are consistent with the institutional mission. (1.A.2)	• 1.a, 4.a	• C1-24, C4-122
	• Mission aligns with State Compact and drives institutional Strategic Plan. (1.A.3)	• 2.d	• C2-65
	• Budgeting and resource allocation are linked to mission and strategic priorities. (1.A.3)	• 2.b, 2.d	• C2-52, C2-65
	• Initiatives promoting student success, including a Title III grant, are consistent with focus in the new mission statement. (1.A.3)	• 1.c	• C1-31
	• Survey data demonstrates that understanding and support of the mission pervade the institution. (1.A)	• 1.c	• C1-31
Core Component -1.B. The mission is articulated publicly.	• The College mission and vision are published in numerous locations including the webpage, Catalog and Student Handbook. (1.B.1)	• 1.a, 1.e	• C1-25, C1-38
	• Mission and vision statements of 2011 clearly demonstrate State and institutional priorities of student success,	• 1.a •	• C1-24 •

	 access, and workforce development. (1.B.2) The College's mission documents delineate the nature (higher education), scope (academic and workforce), and constituents (individuals and communities) of its programs and services. (1.B.2) 	• 1.a	• C1-24
Core Component -1.C. Northern understands the relationship between its mission and the diversity of society.	• Mission and vision statements demonstrate that the institution values diversity of learners. (1.C.1)	• 1.a, 1.b	• C1-24, C1-26
	• Northern offers a wide range of multicultural programming for students and the community. (1.C.2)	• 1.b	• C1-28
	• Understanding of diverse cultures and obtaining a global perspective are embedded within the curriculum. (1.C.2)	• 1.b	• C1-28
	• The College offers a wide range of services for the diverse populations it serves including programs for students with disabilities, tutoring services, and support services for students receiving financial aid. (1.C.2)	• 1.b	• C1-28
Core Component -1.D. Northern's mission demonstrates commitment to the public good	• Emphasis in mission and vision statements on meeting community needs is illustrated by workforce programs and new facilities. (1.D.1)	• 5.a , 2.b	• C5-156, C2-53
	• As a multiyear recipient of the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll and with the large number of service activities, Northern demonstrates its commitment to	• 4.c, 5.b	• C4-146, C5-161

	 community service. (1.D.1) The entire self-study document demonstrates that educational responsibilities (degree and workforce) are the only purpose of the College. (1.D.2) The College clearly engages the external constituencies and responds to their needs as indicated by establishment of the Middle College, workforce programs, involvement with the community, partnerships, and community service. (1.D.3) 	• 5.a, 5.c	 C.5-168, C.5-156, C.5-166, C.5-157, C.5-169
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Northern acts with integrity; its conduct i	-	Location i	in Self Study
New Criterion/Core Component	Evidence for Fulfillment of Criterion	Former Criterion	Page Number(s)
Core Component -2.A Northern operates with integrity in its financial, academic, personnel, and auxiliary functions; it establishes and follows fair and ethical policies and processes for	• All institutional audits from an independent auditor have yielded no significant findings and the College has a number of rules (policies) to protect fiscal integrity. (2.A)	• 2.b, 1.e	• C2-48, C1-38
its governing board, administration, faculty, and staff.	• The College has numerous personnel rules (policies) to promote an ethical and equitable work environment. (2.A)	• 1.e	• C1-38
	• The State Ethics Act and Open Meetings Act guide the Board of Governors to ensure that there are no conflicts of interest and that activities of the Board are transparent. (2.A)	• 1.e	• C1-38
	 The Board operates according to "governance by policy" model. (2.A) 	• 1.d	• C1-34
Core Component -2.B. Northern presents itself clearly and completely to its students and to the public with	• Academic programs and program requirements are clearly explained in the catalog and linked to website. (2.B)	• 1.e	• C1-38
regard to its programs, requirements, faculty and staff, costs to students, control, and accreditation relationships.	• Costs are clearly presented on web, which also includes a tuition calculator on the homepage. (2.B)	• 1.e	• C1-38
	• Accreditation relationships are clearly indicated in the Catalog and on the web, including use of the HLC "Mark of Affiliation." (2.B)	• 1.e	• C1-37
	• Northern publishes all pertinent student "Right-to-Know" information on the	• 1.e	• C1-38

	website. (2.B)		
Core Component -2.C. The governing board of Northern is sufficiently autonomous to make decisions in the best interest of the institution and to assure its integrity.	• The nine lay members of the Board of Governors are appointed by the Governor, but they have staggered terms and no more than 5 may be from one party so they are able to be autonomous. (2.C, 2.C.3)	• 1.d	• C1-34
	• The Board includes elected representatives of the faculty, staff and students as voting members so interests of both internal and external constituencies are considered in Board deliberations. (2.C.2, 2.C.3)	• 1.d	• C1-34
	• Board minutes provide evidence that the Board deliberations reflect priorities to preserve and enhance the institution. (2.C.1)	• 1.d	• C1-34
	• The Board responsibilities are delineated in State Code and Board By-Laws, and the Board delegates responsibility for day-to-day management of the institution to the administration. (2.C.4)	• 1.d	• C1-34
	• Faculty are responsible for curriculum and academic matters through divisions and the Curriculum Committee. (2.C.4)	• 1.d	• C1-35
Core Component -2.D. Northern is committed to freedom of expression and the pursuit of truth in teaching and learning.	• The College has a Rule (policy) on Academic Freedom. (2.D)	• 1.e	• C1-38
Core Component -2.E. Northern ensures that faculty, students, and staff acquire, discover, and apply knowledge responsibly.	• The College Rules (policies) on Academic Integrity and Student Responsibilities and Student Conduct	• 4.d	• C4-149

Help ensure the integrity of research and scholarly practice. (2.E.1, 2.E.3)		
• Many faculty use software to help them identify plagiarism. (2.E.1)	• 4.d	• C4-151
• Students are provided guidance regarding ethical use of information resources through bibliographic instruction offered through the LRC and in classes emphasizing research. (2.E.2)	• 4.d	• C4-150
• The College has a general education goal on information literacy to ensure that all students have experience acquiring and applying knowledge. (2.E)	• 4.b	• C4-134

New Criterion/Core Component	Evidence for Eulfillment of Cuiterion	Location i	n Self Study
New Criterion/Core Component	Evidence for Fulfillment of Criterion	Former Criterion	Page Number(s)
Criterion 3. Teaching and Learning:	Quality, Resources and Support		
Northern provides high quality education	n, wherever and however its offerings are deliver	red.	
Core Component -3.A. Northern's degree programs are appropriate to higher education.	• All programs are reviewed on a regular cycle to assure they are current; in addition, all programs were reviewed in 2011-12 to comply with a new State policy on maximum credit hours. (3.A.1)	• 4.c	• C4-140, C4-143
	• All technical programs must have an external instrument to measure student performance, which assures performance expectations are appropriate for the degree. (3.A.1)	• 3.a, 4.c	• C3-78, C4-143
	• Learning goals for courses are clearly articulated in Master Course Guides for each course and program goals are clearly articulated in Catalog descriptions of the courses. (3.A.2)	• 3.a	• C3-78
	• All sections of a course are required to follow the Master Course Guide for the course, regardless of location, modality, or the instructor ensuring consistency of program quality and learning goals. (3.A.3)	• 3.a	• C3-72
Core Component -3.B. Northern demonstrates that the exercise of intellectual inquiry and the acquisition, application, and integration of broad learning and skills are integral to its educational programs.	 Northern has established general education requirements for every associate and certificate degree program which are consistent with State requirements and institutional philosophy. (3.B.1) Northern clearly articulates its general 	 4.b, 3.a 4.b 	 C4-134, C3-72 C4-134

	 education philosophy, goals and content in the College Catalog. (3.B.2) The College assesses general education as part of its assessment plan with two goals being assessed annually. (3.B.2) General education goal #4, which is to be 	• 3.a • 4.b	• C3-73
	• General education goal #4, which is to be applied to all programs, requires all students to be engaged in collecting, analyzing, and communicating information but the self-study process identified measurement of the goal as an area for improvement. (3.B.3)	• 4.0	• C4-134, C4-137
	• Assessment of general education goal #5 regarding cultural and global perspective revealed that the goal is being achieved with 26 general education and 73 technical courses exposing students to cultural and/or global perspectives. (3.B.4)	• 3.a	• C3-74
	• Although research is not a focus of a community college, faculty and staff do contribute to scholarship and discovery of knowledge through assessment activities and some faculty participate in other research activities involving teaching and learning. (3.B.5)	• 4.a	• C4-125
Core Component -3.C. Northern has the faculty and staff needed for effective, high-quality programs and	 The faculty is appropriately credentialed with 73% of the full-time faculty holding at least a masters degree. (3.C.2) 	• 3.b	• C3-80
student services.	 The faculty position description clearly delineates expectations of faculty non- classroom roles including oversight of curriculum, assessment, and professional 	• 3.b	• C3-81

 development. (3.C.1) All degree programs, with the exception of the new Mechatronics program, have at least one full-time faculty member associated with the program. (3.C.1) The College has a comprehensive system in place for the evaluation of teaching, which includes the students' perspective 	• 3.b	 Institutional records C3-80
 for both full-time and part-time faculty. (3.C.3) Northern has professional development expectations of faculty and supports professional development both through in-service type activities and paid support 	• 4.a, 3.b	• C4-128, C3-84
 for external activities. (3.C.4) In order to be accessible for student inquiry, all full-time faculty are required to maintain at least 8 office hours weekly, and faculty teaching online are required to interact with students on a regular and timely basis. (3.C.5) 		• Position description and change request (pg. 14)
• Staff members providing student support services are appropriately qualified upon hiring, receive training such as regular training provided for tutors, and are supported in professional development through the College professional development process. (3.C.6)	• 4.a	• C4-128

Come Commence 2 D M 4		2.1.4	
Core Component -3.D. Northern provides support for student learning	• Academic Success Centers on each campus offer tutoring, peer mentoring,	• 3.d, 4.a	• C3-103, C4-126
and effective teaching.	supplemental instruction, and student		
and effective teaching.	11 /		
	success workshops to support and		
	enhance student learning. (3.D.1)		G4 107
	• Northern provides a broad array of	• 4.a	• C4-127
	services to support and accommodate		
	students with disabilities. (3.D.1)		
	The Office of Career Planning and	• 3.d	• C3-106
	Placement offers a variety of services to		
	assist students in exploring career		
	options and seeking employment. (3.D.1)		
	• Each campus has a Library/Learning	• 3.d	• C3-107
	Resource Center to support student (and		
	community) learning with computers,		
	books, periodicals, and databases, and all		
	resources may be accessed through the		
	Library web page on the College		
	website. (3.D.1)		
	• Northern provides support services to		• Change request,
	online students through the webpage,		pg. 13
	including library resources, tutoring.		P8. 15
	admissions, financial aid, textbook		
	ordering, student records and business		
	office services. (3.D.1)		
	 The College has a comprehensive 	• 3.c, 3.d, 4.a	• C3-94, C3-101,
	e 1	- J.C, J.U, 4.a	• C3-94, C3-101, C4-126
	transitional education program including		C4-120
	mandatory placement testing, mandatory		
	placement into transitional courses when		
	scores dictate, and a variety of options to		
	help students progress from transitional		
	courses to college-level courses as		
	rapidly as possible. (3.D.2)		

	• All faculty and counselors serve as academic advisors who help students assess their career and life goals, understand their test scores, create an educational plan, and select courses. (3.D.3)	• 3.c	• C3-96
	 Northern has the infrastructure and resources to support its programs, including technology resources, new facilities, well equipped labs, and extensive clinical sites. (3.D.4) 	• 3.d, 2.b	• C3-107, C2-92
	 Students are provided guidance regarding effective use of research and information resources through bibliographic instruction offered through the LRC and in classes emphasizing research. (3.D.5) 	• 4.d	• C4-150
Core Component -3.E. Northern fulfills the claims it makes for an enriched educational environment.	• Northern offers a variety of co-curricular opportunities for students to enrich their educational experience, including student organizations associated with programs, student government, Phi Theta Kappa, student activities, and service projects. (3.E.1)	• 4.a, 4.b, 5.b	• C4-118, C4-145, C.5-161, C5-165
	• The extensive list of community service activities is evidence of the College's commitment to providing community service opportunities for students. (3.E.1)	• 5.b	• C5-161
	• Northern demonstrates the commitment to workforce development that is included in its mission through a number of programs it has offered in response to community and employer needs. (3.E.2)	• 5.a, 4.a	• C5-157, C4-132

Criterion 4. Teaching and Learning: Evaluation and Improvement

Northern demonstrates responsibility for the quality of its educational programs, learning environments, and support services, and it evaluates their effectiveness for student learning through processes designed to promote continuous improvement.

New Criterion/Core Component	Evidence for Fulfillment of Criterion	Location in Self Study	
		Former Criterion	Page Number(s)
Core Component -4.A. Northern demonstrates responsibility for the quality of its educational programs.	• Northern has a regular program review process to assure program quality that includes a self-study, multiple inputs, advisory committee involvement, Board approval, and State Council approval. (4.A.1)	• 4.c, 3.a	• C4-140, C3-71
	• Northern evaluates all credit that it transcripts and has a process it follows to evaluate experiential credit (primarily as part of the Board of Governors program.) (4.A.2)	• 4.a	• C4-123
	• The institutional policy which is followed to assure the quality of transfer credit the College accepts is printed in the College Catalog. (4.A.3)		• College catalog, pg. 72
	• The College's Early Entrance (Dual Credit) program is administered consistent with College guidelines and State policy (Series 19) to ensure that the quality of the courses are equivalent to collegiate courses. (4.A.4)		• WV CCTCE Series 19
	• Northern maintains specialized accreditation for a number of its programs and publishes the list of programs with specialized accreditation in the Catalog and on the web.(4.A.5)	• 4.a	• C3-72

	• The College uses multiple measures to evaluate success of graduates including job placement rates, licensure test results, results from standardized measures used for Perkins-eligible programs, transfer rates, graduate follow-up surveys, and advisory committee feedback. (4.A.6)	• 4.c	• C4-141
Core Component -4.B. Northern demonstrates a commitment to educational achievement and improvement through ongoing assessment of student learning.	• Learning goals for courses and programs are clearly defined with course goals published in Master Course Guides for each course and program goals published in catalog descriptions of the courses.	• 3.a	• C3-77
	 (4.B.1) Northern follows an established process for assessment of student learning in courses, programs and general education. 	• 3.a	• C3-70
	 (4.B.1) Northern has implemented processes to assess all areas of the College. (4.B.2) 	• 3.a, 3.c	• C3-77, C3-92
	• The College's assessment process provides documentation to demonstrate that information gained from assessment is used to improve student learning.	• 3.c	• C3-87
	 (4.B.3) Assessment at the College is faculty- driven with leadership provided by the Assessment Committee, which comprises faculty, staff, administrative, and student members, and participation by all faculty in assessment activities. (4.B.4) 	• 3.a, 2.c	• C3-70, C2-61
Core Component -4.C. Northern demonstrates a commitment to educational improvement through	• Through the change in its mission to emphasize student success, the institution	• 1.a	• C1-24

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ongoing attention to retention,	clearly demonstrates a commitment to		
persistence, and completion rates in its degree and certificate programs.	educational improvement through ongoing attention to retention,		
degree and certificate programs.			
	persistence, and completion rates. (4.C)	2.1.1	
	• Northern has implemented a number of	• 3.d, 1.c	• C3-103, C1-31
	initiatives to enhance student success		
	including hiring a director of academic		
	student support, applying for and		
	receiving a Title III grant focused on		
	student retention and success, and		
	reforming its transitional education		
	courses. (4.C.1)		
	The State Compact, College Strategic	• 2.d	• C2-64
	Plan, and College Retention Plan		
	delineate specific goals for student		
	retention, persistence, and completion.		
	(4.C.1)		
	• Northern collects and analyzes data on	• 3.a	• C3-78,
	retention, persistence, and completion		Institutional
	with institutional data published in		Snapshot, and IR
	Compact reports and strategic plan		reports
	updates, and program data submitted to		1
	program coordinators as part of the		
	annual program review. (4.C.2)		
	• The use of retention, persistence, and	• 3.d	• C3-102
	completion data to prepare the Title III	5.4	00 102
	grant application and changes made to		
	transitional math are two clear examples		
	that demonstrate that the institution uses		
	this information to make improvements.		
	(4.C.3)		
	 The College's processes for collecting, 	•	Institutional
	analyzing, and reporting retention,		Snapshot and IR
	anaryzing, and reporting retention,		Shapshot and IK

persistence, and completion data are consistent with State, HLC, and IPEDS	reports
requirements and reflect good practice. (4.C.4)	

Criterion 5. Resources, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness

Northern's resources, structures, and processes are sufficient to fulfill its mission, improve the quality of its educational offerings, and respond to future challenges and opportunities. The institution plans for the future.

New Criterion/Core Component	Evidence for Fulfillment of Criterion	Location in Self Study	
		Former Criterion	Page Number(s)
Core Component -5.A. Northern's resource base supports its current educational programs and its plans for maintaining and strengthening their quality in the future.	• The College has a strong financial resource base as evidenced by the increase in assets over 10 years, performance on financial ratios, and cash reserves. (5.A.1)	• 2.b	• C2-47
	• The already sound physical infrastructure of the institution has been enhanced with new facilities in Weirton and Wheeling.	• 2.b	• C2-54
	 (5.A.1) The technological infrastructure is sufficient to support College operations with a 3-4 year replacement cycle for computers, and recent enhancements including purchase of new IP video equipment, redesign of the webpage, and implementation of student and 	• 2.b	• C2-56
	 faculty/staff portals. (5.A.1) Northern has a well-developed budget and resource allocation process which involves the budget committee and assures allocations are linked to strategic priorities. (5.A.2, 5.A.5) 	• 2.b	• C2-52
	• Performance on the State Report Card and the Institutional Strategic Plan demonstrate that institutional goals are realistic in light of resources. (5.A.3)	• 2.b, 2.c	• C2-62, C2-63
	• The College's staff are appropriately	• 2.b, 3.b	• C2-55, C3-80

	qualified with 82% of all personnel holding a degree and 73 % of full-time faculty having at least a masters degree. (5.A.4)		
Core Component -5.B. Northern's governance and administrative structures promote effective leadership and support collaborative processes that enable the institution to fulfill its	• Internal constituencies are involved in institutional governance through the committee structure, College Council, and constituency representation on the Board. (5.B.1)	• 1.d	• C1-34, C.3-35
mission.	• A well-defined rule (policy) making process involves constituencies and includes a comment period before submission to the Board. (5.B.3)	• 1.d	• C1-35
	• The Board demonstrates fiscal oversight through approval of College budget and capital plans and academic oversight through program approval and approval of program reviews. (5.B.2)	• 1.d	• C1-34
Core Component -5.C. Northern engages in systematic and integrated planning.	• Strategic plans are developed on a 5-year cycle with the current strategic plan developed through a collaborative process in 2011. (5.C.3)	• 2.d	• C2-64
	• Progress on strategic plan goals and State Compact goals are monitored yearly and revised as appropriate. (5.C)	• 2.d	• C2-65
	• The College's resource allocation is tied to strategic priorities. (5.C.1)	• 2.b	• C2-52
	• All College plans are aligned with the Strategic Plan, which flows from the College mission and the State Compact.	• 2.d	• C2-65
	(5.C.2)Institutional planning is based upon	• 2.b	• C2-57

	 sound understanding of internal capacity and external factors as evidenced by the institution's proactive response to possible budget reductions. (5.C.4) Northern's program development in response to Marcellus Shale development and facility planning are evidence that institutional planning anticipates emerging factors. (5.C.5) 	• 5.a, 2.b	• C5-158, C2-44
Core Component -5.D. Northern works systematically to improve its performance.	 Based upon reviews of student success data, the College applied for and received a Title III grant to develop student success initiatives. (5.D) The College publishes an annual report of progress toward meeting goals of the strategic plan and makes adjustments based upon results and changing trends. (5.D.1) State report card and IPEDS Benchmark Reports are used as measures of institutional performance. (5.D.1) 	 1.c 2.d 2.c 3.c 	 C1-31 C2-64 C2-63 C3-63
	 Northern demonstrates that it learns from assessment activities across all areas of the College and makes improvements with numerous examples, including the "You Spoke, We Listened" campaign which informs students of changes that were made as a result of their input on surveys or other instruments. (5.D.2) 		