

High-Quality Teaching and Learning at Elon University*

Elon University is committed to providing students with the preeminent engaged learning environment, animated most significantly by a faculty guided by its self-authored Teacher-Scholar model. Consequently, the University is deeply committed to supporting the ongoing development of and pursuit of excellence among its teaching faculty.

The following identifies six measures of high-quality teaching at Elon, with the first four reflecting primary measures that have the most direct impact on quality and the last two measures reflecting secondary measures that have significant impact on the broader teaching and learning context. As a whole, these measures aim to (a) motivate and guide faculty members' individual goal-directed development; (b) encourage critical reflection about one's own teaching against defined measures; (c) identify measures within which one might gather evidence about effectiveness and growth over time; and (d) sustain individual as well as cross-faculty commitment to excellence in teaching.

Each faculty member is expected to pursue high-quality teaching and learning across all measures, striving for excellence and even leading-edge quality within some measures over time.

Primary Measures

Measure 1: Professional learning and development

Elon faculty are committed to a scholarly, critically self-reflective approach to teaching and learning. Professional learning includes both ongoing disciplinary learning and ongoing study of teaching and learning. Professional development in teaching, specifically, is reflected in critically self-reflective, goal-oriented, evidence-based growth over time in quality and effectiveness.

Measure 2: Learner-centered design and planning

Elon faculty are committed to constructing and sustaining an environment designed for learners and learning.

Measure 3: Instructional effectiveness

Elon faculty are committed to excellence in the execution and delivery of learner-centered plans within concrete contexts of learning.

Measure 4: Supportive and equitable learning environment

Elon faculty are committed to developing environments that support the humanity and wellbeing of each and every learner.

Secondary Measures

Measure 5: Commitment to teaching as the shared work of a university community

Elon faculty are committed to an understanding of high-quality teaching as an outcome of the shared work of a university community, rather than only one's isolated practice. High-quality teaching and learning, therefore, requires active participation in advancing and sustaining a strong university-wide learning environment and a broad community of learners.

Measure 6: Commitment to enhancing a strong intellectual environment

Elon faculty are committed to participating in and advancing an environment driven by curiosity, guided by careful, thoughtful, rigorous inquiry, and dedicated to learning.

** Developed by the High-quality Teaching Working Group in 2018-2019; approved by Academic Council to reference in the Handbook as a resource document in spring 2023*

High-Quality Teaching and Learning Evidence at Elon University

Elon University is committed to providing students with the preeminent engaged learning environment, animated most significantly by a faculty guided by its self-authored Teacher-Scholar model. Consequently, the University is deeply committed to supporting the ongoing development of and pursuit of excellence among its teaching faculty.

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Primary Measures			
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Possible Indicators	Sources of Evidence		
	Self	Students	Peers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrating scholarship and teaching Conveying the foundation of established knowledge and theory Integrating knowledge across disciplines Demonstrating a commitment to improvement of teaching Using current and relevant materials that enhance our understanding of the world Demonstrating command of the subject matter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit I Syllabus Assignments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPoTs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit III Observation Letter

Measure 2: Learner-centered design and planning Elon faculty are committed to constructing and sustaining an environment designed for learners and learning.			
Possible Indicators	Sources of Evidence		
	Self	Students	Peers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Challenging students to be engaged learners Cultivating informed critical thinking and creative expression Encouraging translation of knowledge into practice and service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit I Syllabus Assignments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPoTs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit III Observation Letter
Measure 3: Instructional effectiveness Elon faculty are committed to excellence in the execution and delivery of learner-centered plans within concrete contexts of learning.			
Possible Indicators	Sources of Evidence		
	Self	Students	Peers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrating an ability to communicate effectively with students Using appropriate and varied methods and strategies of teaching, assessing, and grading Using technology to meet course objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit I Syllabus Assignments Video 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPoTs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit III Observation
Measure 4: Supportive and equitable learning environment Elon faculty are committed to developing environments that support the humanity and wellbeing of each and every learner.			
Possible Indicators	Sources of Evidence		
	Self	Students	Peers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fostering respect for diversity Creating class environments of mutual respect Being available to students Being concerned for the wholeness and wellbeing of students Advising and supervising students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit I Syllabus Assignments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPoTs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit III Observations

Secondary Measures			
Measure 5: Commitment to teaching as the shared work of a university community <p>Elon faculty are committed to an understanding of high-quality teaching as an outcome of the shared work of a university community, rather than only one's isolated practice. High-quality teaching and learning, therefore, requires active participation in advancing and sustaining a strong university-wide learning environment and a broad community of learners.</p>			
Possible Indicators	Sources of Evidence		
	Self	Students	Peers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mentoring of students sharing of personal and professional growth with others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit I Curricula 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit III Letters
Measure 6: Commitment to enhancing a strong intellectual environment <p>Elon faculty are committed to participating in and advancing an environment driven by curiosity, guided by careful, thoughtful, rigorous inquiry, and dedicated to learning.</p>			
Possible Indicators	Sources of Evidence		
	Self	Students	Peers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitating intellectual opportunities for students Extending learning beyond the classroom Presentation of intellectual and moral concerns within the University community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit I Grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit III Letters