
COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION AT WINTHROP UNIVERSITY



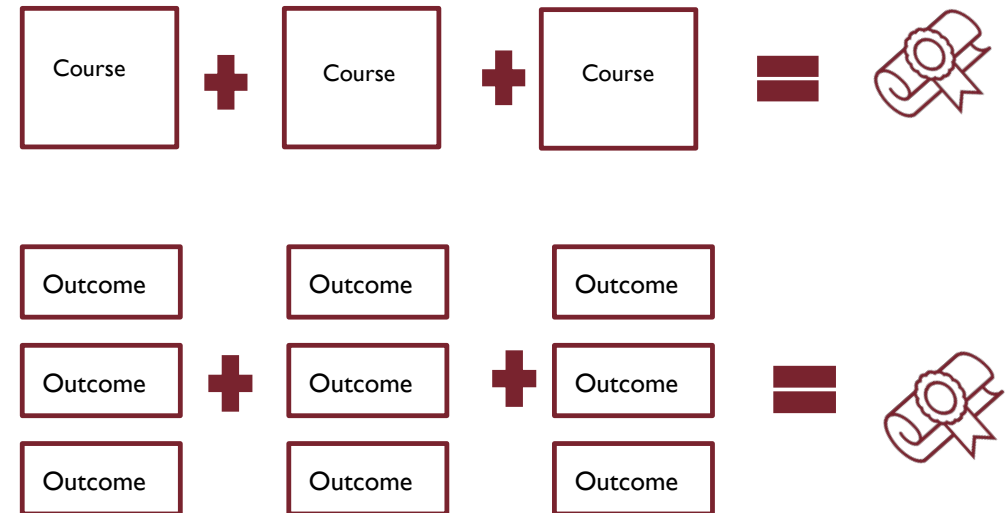
Dr. Tracy Griggs, Associate Professor of Management

Dr. Greg Oakes, Professor, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Bettie Parsons Barger, Assoc. Professor, Dir. Rex Institute, EDCO Chair, Dir. EPP, COE

COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION

- A new and exciting model for higher education, ideal for adult and professional students returning to college
- Focus on learner mastery of knowledge, skills, abilities, attitudes and behaviors (competencies)
- Competencies stack into micro-credentials, certificates, degrees
- Credit for Prior Learning (PLA)
- Time is variable, learning is fixed
- Flexible, pre-planned, backwards designed curricular journey
- Performance-based, criterion-referenced and authentic assessments
- Personalized approach to wrap-around supports



*Competency-based education is a method of academic instruction and evaluation based upon students demonstrating **mastery** of a subject via **performance on relevant, high fidelity, real-world assessments**. De-emphasizes time in seat for demonstration of proficiency.*

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR WINTHROP

Transform our approach to adult and professional learning to include competency-based education (CBE)



WHY NOW, WHY WINTHROP?

- **Shrinking pool of 18-22 year old consumers** (EAB, 2022)
 - **Increasing SC funding and attention** on adult degree completion ([Ascend 60X30](#))
 - **Sizable potential market** seeking degree completion in York (**53k**) and surrounding region (**96k**), and in SC (**450k**) (2018 Census)
 - Ever-growing demand for increased **access, affordability** and **flexibility**
 - Labor market shortages lead employers toward **upskilling** and **retooling** workforce
- **It's mission-centric**
 - Winthrop would be **first in SC** to develop major CBE
 - We are **poised to do this well**
 - National caliber, student-focused faculty
 - Emphasis on high touch, transformative experiences
 - Prior experience developing major online delivery
 - **Strong institutional support**

WHEN & WHAT

Potential Timeline

- **Fall 2023:** COE launching non-credit CBE program for Teacher Certification
- **Fall 2024:** Move BPS to online with some CBE assets
- **Spring 2024-Fall 2025:** further CBE programming launch

Also:

- **Expand** Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) across campus
- **Identify** further programs for CBE delivery (seeking volunteers!)

Coming Soon

- Solicitation of CBE-interested programs
- Research and Implementation Committees for program development and coordination (to include faculty)
- Training for interested faculty
- Training for staff (Financial Aid, Records and Registration, Student Affairs, etc.)
- Develop community advisory board
- Develop community contacts for backward design

Strategic Planning Committee

(Strategic planning. Enrollment, Cost and revenue projections)

- **Jack DeRochi**, Dean, Graduate School
- **Gary Simrill**, Special Asst to Pres for Community Relations, Office of the President
- **Justin Oates**, VP for Finance and Business Affairs
- **Joseph Miller**, VP for Enrollment Management and Marketing
- **Amanda James**, Director of Admissions
- **Tim Drueke**, Asst Provost, Curriculum & Program Support
- **Pat Guilbaud**, Dir. Extended Education
- **Greg Oakes**, Associate Dean, CAS
- **Bettie Parsons Barger**, EDCO Chair, Dir. EPP, COE
- **Tracy Griggs**, Associate Professor, CBA

Program Development, Design & Coordination Committees

- to include faculty and staff from across campus

Implementation Committee

(Operations and implementation)

- **Jack DeRochi**, Dean Graduate School
- **Kimarie Whetstone**, Director of Online Learning
- **Tim Drueke**, Asst Provost, Curriculum & Program Support
- **Pat Guilbaud**, Dir. Extended Education
- **Chip Werner**, Dir. Administrative Systems and Programming
- **Kinyata Adams-Brown**, Assoc. Dean Engagement, Diversity, and Inclusive Excellence
- **Michelle Hare**, Director of Financial Aid
- **Gina Jones**, Registrar
- **Jeremy Whitaker**, Associate VP for Finance
- **Amanda Hackney**, Student Financial Services Mgr.
- **Katie Price**, Dir. of Marketing
- **Allison Brinkley**, Adult Student Outreach/Services Coordinator
- **Noreen Gaubatz**, Director of Institutional Effectiveness & Assessment
- **Scott Amundsen**, Director, Bachelor of Prof Studies program
- **David Rollings**, Director of Admissions Operations & Systems

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR FACULTY?

Faculty Role in Adoption & Success of CBE

- **Learning:**
 - Presentations to College Assemblies
 - Research, outreach, and brainstorming within your field, and among colleagues.
- **Engagement**
 - Identify interested parties across the university (CBE leads)
 - Training and resources provided to all faculty involved in CBE
- **Adoption:**
 - Faculty-led design and delivery and support of specific programs
 - Replace lecture with more active learning, teach skills that remain relevant in a changing world, switch to formative assessments instead of high stakes testing. Show, not just tell.
- **Dissemination:**
 - Ongoing efforts to grow programs and enrollment, and engagement of local employers to shape and develop programs that meet a known need

Questions you may have:

- How is quality assured?
- How might CBE shape our position in the market, in the region?
- How might CBE shape our identity as an institution? My identity as a professor?
- Who designs and delivers CBE?
- What kind of training will there be?
- What does the delivery model actually look like?
- Which faculty will be expected to offer CBE, how it is compensated, and how does it fit into my load?

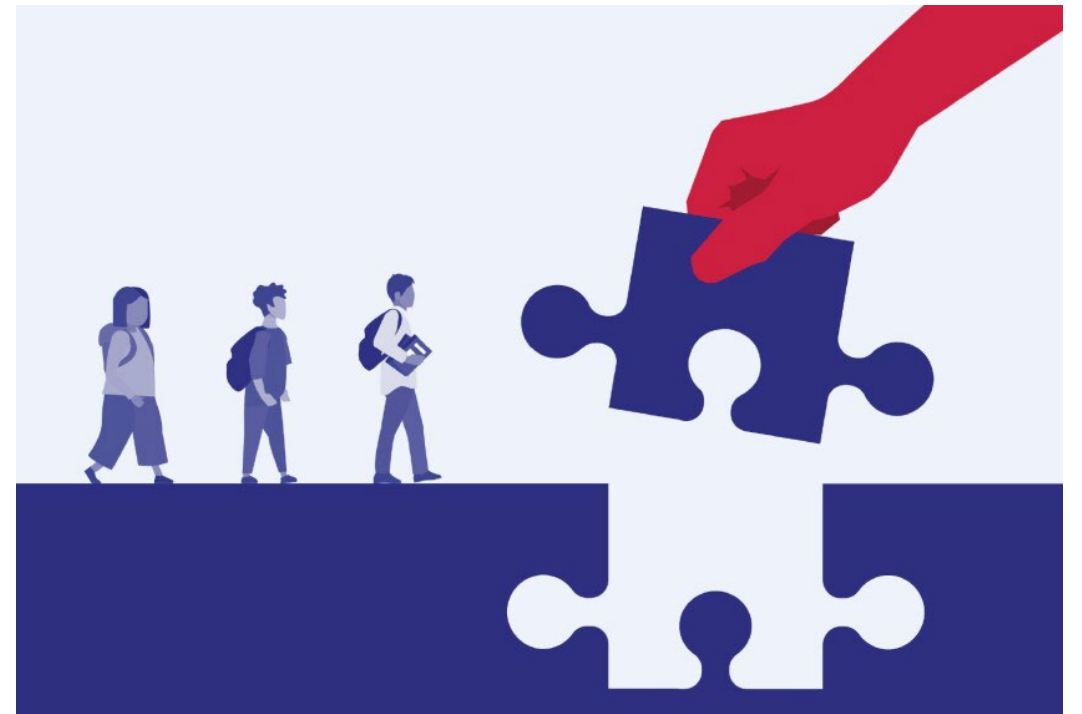
LOOKING FORWARD

CBE repositions Winthrop to grow enrollment while meeting the needs of our community and employers

The CBE delivery model will involve many WU services, staff, and faculty

As early adopters, flexibility, a growth mindset and creativity are assets

We are excited to get things rolling!



QUESTIONS, INTEREST, INPUT?

- Contact us!
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- Bettie Parsons Barger: bargerbp@winthrop.edu
- Greg Oakes: oakesm@winthrop.edu