

# Certificate in Student Affairs Program Assessment

Providing an exceptional student experience is more important than ever in higher education. As a student affairs professional, you need to know that your programming is hitting the mark and making a difference.

Whether you're looking to enhance your current role or broaden your expertise, our program will help you build the knowledge, skills, tools, and strategies to accurately assess the impact and success of your student-focused programs.

## Details at a Glance

**Format:** Online with mix of self-directed learning and live instruction

**Time commitment:** 5 weeks per course

**Tuition fee:** \$900 per course

[openlearning@dal.ca](mailto:openlearning@dal.ca)

[dal.ca/OpenLearning](https://dal.ca/OpenLearning)

Register for [individual courses](#)

Register for the [certificate](#)

### ► Curated content

The curriculum has been designed with your job context in mind, making it relevant, practical, and tailored to your program assessment needs.

### ► Online delivery

Our engaging content is delivered online, making it convenient for you to participate from anywhere.

### ► Convenient schedule

Each five-week course includes two hours of live instruction and two hours of self-paced learning. Live classes are on Tuesdays (1–3 p.m. AST/ADT), fitting into the workday.

### ► Expert instructors

Learn from Dalhousie University's [Heather Doyle](#) (Director of Research, Assessment, & Planning) and [Dr. Rick Ezekiel](#) (Vice-Provost, Student Affairs), and special content experts from across Canada.

## Courses

**Course 1:** Assessment Essentials for Student Affairs Professionals

**Course 2:** Methodologies Part I: Intro and Design

**Course 3:** Methodologies Part II: Research Design, Data Collection, Data Analysis

**Course 4:** Ethics: Confidentiality, Privacy, Bias, Equity, and Fairness

**Course 5:** Actioning Assessment in Student Affairs

## 2025–2026 Dates

**Course 1:** September 22–October 24 (Fall)

**Course 2:** November 10–December 12 (Fall)

**Course 3:** January 19–February 20 (Winter)

**Course 4:** March 9–April 10 (Winter/Spring)

**Course 5:** April 27–May 29 (Spring)

The courses will be offered annually following the same schedule, and learners will have three years to complete the certificate after their first enrollment.\* Each course has the previous one as a pre-requisite, but learners can be admitted without prerequisites with the permission of the instructor or through a Recognition of Prior Learning assessment by the Faculty of Open Learning & Career Development.

\* Note: While the certificate has a three-year time limit for completion, it is designed to take learners through the entire assessment cycle and finish with a complete plan. As such, the instructors encourage learners to take all five courses consecutively in a single cycle.



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UNIVERSITY

Offered in partnership by  
**FACULTY OF OPEN LEARNING & CAREER DEVELOPMENT**  
**STUDENT AFFAIRS**