Revision of Test Items Policy 2.10

Original Implementation: June 1995
Last Revision: May 2019

Testing should accurately and validly assess the student’s knowledge, competencies, and readiness for progression within the School of Nursing.

PROCEDURE

1. Individual test items should be examined after each use to monitor quality as a measurement tool.

2. A general review of items in the test bank should be done on a periodic basis and following the adoption of a new textbook.

3. All teacher-made examinations that are computer scored receive a statistical item analysis and overall scores.

Two indices will be evaluated:

1. The **Item Difficulty Level** shows the percentage of students who answered the item correctly.
2. The **Item Discrimination** measures how well the item discriminates between high achievers and low achievers on the test.

In using the item analyses, the following criteria are suggested to guide item review:

1. **Item Difficulty Level:** If the Item Difficulty Level is less than 0.3 or 30%, the item should be reviewed.
2. **Item Discrimination:** If the Item Discrimination (PBCC) is less than 0.15, the item should be reviewed.

The faculty should consider nullifying or giving credit for more than one answer if a test item has:

1. An Item Difficulty Level below 0.3 or 30%.
2. An Item Discrimination of less than 0.15 combined with an Item Difficulty Level of below 0.3 or 30%.

Faculty should consider limitations when analyzing test items. These include:

1. Distortion that may occur with a small class size;
2. The potential reduction of content validity;
3. Some items may be considered mastery content.