Module 1 Worksheet: Being Clear about the Purpose of Your Assessment Study

1. Getting started – describe the general topic of interest. It could start with an observation, an anecdote, gut feeling...

2. Refine this starting point into a question. Try to make it meaningful, manageable, relevant, concise, not too general, not too focused, and something that answering would point to a change or improvement that could be implemented.
3. Write a purpose statement. Some questions to consider:
- Where do we want to be?
- What are we hoping to accomplish with this assessment project?
- How will we know if we’ve made it?

The purpose of this assessment study is to:

The results from this assessment study will:

4. Setting the stage and context for your assessment study: What do we already know about the group of students / staff / faculty who will be included in our assessment study? About this topic?

What additional information should we gather about the group of students / staff / faculty who will be included in our assessment study? About this topic?

5. What assessment study type seems to be the best fit for your study’s question(s) and purpose?