

## Index of Learning Styles

The ILS was designed to identify preferred styles of learning which includes perception, acquisition, processing and retention of information.

The Office of Institutional Research, Planning and Assessment provides assistance to administrators, faculty, staff and students in the administering, archival, analysis and reporting of results from the Index of Learning Styles (ILS) Survey. While every project may be unique and require different needs, IRPA offers the following process in order to efficiently provide assistance.

### GETTING STARTED

The first thing that happens is a meeting with the IRPA staff to ensure the following are covered.

- When will the survey be administered?
- To whom will the survey be administered?
- How long should students be given to complete the survey?
- What kind of analysis is going to be required?
- What kind of reports are going to be produced?

### ADMINISTERING THE SURVEY

Administering the survey can be done either online or paper-based. Each have their advantages and disadvantages which can be covered in the initial meeting. Completing the survey online, but in class combines the best of both worlds.

- Online Administration
  - + IRPA will handle everything if online administration is chosen.
  - + All students can be tracked, automatic email reminders can be sent
  - + Less burden on the students as they complete the survey only once and utilized for different classes.
- Paper Based Administration
  - + Just hand them out, wait 10 minutes and the students hand them back in.

### ANALYZING, SCORING AND REPORTING

IRPA will take care of compiling and scoring the results. In addition, IRPA can cross-tab the ILS results with just about any piece of information that we have on a student. Furthermore, the results from the ILS can be archived for later use (i.e., longitudinal analysis, individual comparisons after and R-HIT educational experience, etc.)

- Individual Scores
  - + Nicely plotted on scale of each domain (Active-Reflective, Sensing-Intuitive, Visual-Verbal, Sequential-Global.
  - + Results indicate the degree to which the student prefers one side or the other of each domain.
- Group Scores
  - + Nicely scaled for each domain, but done in Bar Charts for a quick snapshot of the predominant characteristic of the class as a whole.
  - + Table format is also available.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- IRPA Website
- Initial packet of surveys (online instructions or paper copy instructions) and supplemental readings from Felder and others on the use of ILS results.
- Confidentiality Agreements: In accordance with FERPA guidelines, ILS respondents should give permission to release their individual scores to survey administrator(s).

