What is Block Testing?

Block Testing is the testing structure for the College of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Science’s competency-based student learning assessment model. Block testing consists of four required tests and two cumulative exams in core courses. Cumulative Exam 1 will cover material taught during week 1-7, while Cumulative Exam 2 will cover material taught during weeks 9-14. Block testing occurs in some courses, but not all. Be sure to check your course syllabi.

Required competency is determined by the Instructor of Record, with a minimum of 70%. Please refer to individual course syllabi for this information.

For students who do not meet competency on a cumulative exam, a final attempt is provided at the end of the semester, which is called an extended learning experience (ELE). Scores on passed ELE’s will be equivalent to the minimum competency grade set by the IOR.

Attendance at all block tests is mandatory. All absences during test days will result in forfeiting that testing attempt unless arrangements have been made in advance through the Remote Proctoring Request Policy. To request remote proctoring, a Remote Proctoring Request Form must be submitted 15 business days prior to the scheduled absence. Before submitting, please review the Remote Proctoring Request Policy for information related to student responsibilities and costs.

Each semester a block test calendar is published and may be found on the College of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences website underneath Doctor of Pharmacy > Current Student Resources > Block Testing > Test Schedules (Block Testing Schedule). The schedule may also be found in each block tested course syllabi.

Which courses are block tested?

Information on if a course is block tested is available in the course syllabus. It is also available in the block testing schedules. The block tested courses for Fall semester of the first year include:

- PharDSci 502 – Integrated Pharmacology I
- PharDSci 508 – Pharmaceutics I
- PharDSci 528 – Pharmacokinetics
- Pharmacy 507 – Top 200 Drugs
What is an Extended Learning Experience (ELE) and when do ELEs occur?

Students who do not meet competency on a Comprehensive Exam take an ELE exam. An ELE, is a final attempt to demonstrate competency. ELEs are scheduled to occur during weeks 15 & 16 of the semester. Consult the block test calendar for dates and times. The maximum recorded score that is factored into a student’s final grade on an ELE is 70%.

What do I do if I have a re-test or ELE?

If you have not achieved competency, it is important to prepare for the re-test or ELE by re-engaging with the course content, concepts and skills. Refer to the course syllabus for specific instructions about how the faculty member prefers that you re-engage. Re-engaging with the course material is sometimes referred to as remediation.

Students will need to keep up with new material being covered after the initial test has been administered.

Whom do I contact for help related to Block Testing?

- ExamSoft® coordinator located in Spokane HSB 320B or via email at pharmacy.examsoft@wsu.edu
- Office Assistant – Yakima campus; Cadwell Student Center
- Pharmacy IT team located in Spokane HSB 325 A&B and HSB 320 A&B; pharmacy.its@pharmacy.wsu.edu