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Recommended Citation
Available at: https://dc.swosu.edu/aij/vol3/iss3/7
Competency-Based Learning: Proof of Professionalism

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Over the past decade competency-based education has garnered attention as an alternative educational model in higher education. Increasingly, industry and higher education leaders are acknowledging that current traditional models and practices of education no longer adequately prepare college and university graduates for the cognitive and competency rigors of the 21st century workplace. To meet the evolving expectations of industry leaders, higher education must be responsive to calls for educational reforms associated with preparing graduates for contemporary careers or risk educational irrelevance. While these leaders discuss and debate educational reform, a number of colleges, universities and secondary schools are addressing workforce readiness through implementing competency-based education programming. This paper addresses current trends in competency-based education and explores three emerging perspectives central to this educational approach; Journeymanship and Education, Faculty as Facilitator and Learner as Learning Steward.