Course Development

APS has developed a framework, research base, and procedures for the development, evaluation, and dissemination of professional development resources and programs.

This framework, along with the previously developed programs and resources, provides a solid base from which to launch a new project focused on mentoring skills. The proven professional development framework includes the following components:

- Goals for professional skills development, based on the APS/ACDP List of Professional Skills for Physiologists and Trainees
- Effective pedagogy standards, based on the Six Stars for Student Learning
- Course development process for creating effective professional development training materials
- Dissemination routes for products and programs
- Course materials and other developed materials
# Table 2. APS Protocol for Development of Professional Skills Courses

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Major Activities</th>
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| Phase 1: Inputs     | a) Use the Professional Skills Listing and Trainee Needs Survey to identify needs for skills training in specific areas  
b) Identify & review existing research literature, materials, & resources online and in print  
c) Get input from Advisory Board at multiple points in the process                                           |
| Phase 2: Course Development | a) Select the major course topic based on documented needs of the target population  
b) Finalize specific course objectives, topics, and materials  
c) Develop draft course materials for field-testing, using proven materials where available                      |
| Phase 3: Field-Test Course Materials & | a) Identify and train course instructors  
b) Conduct live and online courses to test the effectiveness of course content and pedagogy  
c) Coordinate additional courses and ancillary workshops at scientific meetings/departmental seminars to test the effectiveness of course materials in diverse settings  
d) Evaluate the impact of the courses using data gathered through live courses  
e) Use ancillary workshop feedback to assess effectiveness of materials in diverse settings |
| Phase 4: Revise Course Materials | a) Use the findings of the course & ancillary workshop evaluation, instructor feedback, & Advisory Board review to revise course materials for wide dissemination  
b) Develop a how-to manual to facilitate course replication                                                      |
| Phase 5: Course Dissemination | a) Offer final course materials as downloadable files and encourage other associations to link to these materials  
b) Work collaboratively with other professional societies to develop a schedule of future live/online courses and secure internal and/or external funding to provide support  
c) Offer ancillary workshops using course materials at APS & partner society conferences  
d) Continue to offer APS live and online courses                                                                 |

American Physiological Society