

2021-2022 Assessment Cycle
Assessment Plan

Mission Statement

The Department of History exists to develop the learning skills of enrolled students and impart to them an informed awareness of the past, to encourage the professional development of its faculty, and to contribute the professional expertise of its faculty in service to the academy and its constituents.

Measures

BA History Outcome Set

PSLO 1

Outcome: Recognize the broades patterns of history

Recognize the broadest patterns of United States and World History.

▼ **Measure:** Direct Assessment-Course Grades
Course level Direct - Other

Details/Description:

Course Grades

Course grades are the most basic measure of assessment to determine whether or not students recognize the broadest patters in United States and World History. This PSLO applies this assessment year, 2020-2021, to HI100, 101, 102, 111, and 112, GG101 and 102. Concurrent enrollment data for HI111 (fall) and HI112 (spring) also includes data from 2020-2021 for comparative purposes. The following tables relate the percentage of students who received a B or better or a C or better in the assessed courses in the summer, fall, and spring semesters.

Acceptable Target: 70 percent with grades of C or better.

▼ **Measure:** Essay
Program level Direct - Student Artifact

Details/Description: Faculty assign essays that are then assessed using a common rubric.

Acceptable Target:

PSLO 2

Outcome: Master critical skills

Demonstrate ability to master critical skills of the historical discipline.

▼ **Measure:** Course Grades
Course level Direct - Other

Details/Description: Course Grades
Course grades are the most basic measure of assessment to determine whether or not students recognize the broadest patterns in United States and World History. This PSLO applies this assessment year, 2020-2021, to HI100, 101, 102, 111, and 112, GG101 and 102 and HI395. Concurrent enrollment data for HI111 (fall) and HI112 (spring) also includes data from 2020-2021 for comparative purposes. The following tables relate the percentage of students who received a B or better or a C or better in the assessed courses in the summer, fall, and spring semesters.

Acceptable Target: 70 percent with a grade of C or better.

PSLO 3

Outcome: Apply broad patterns of history to significant historical issues

Apply the understanding of the broad patterns of history to an in-depth examination of significant historical issues for three cultural areas identified by the department (United States, Europe, Non-Western).

▼ **Measure:** PSLO3
Course level Direct - Other

Details/Description:

The department requires all majors to take one upper division United States history course, one upper division European history course, and one upper division non-western history course. In addition, they must take another upper division elective history course that could also be consistent with the study of one of the three cultural areas. All upper division history courses in these categories are also open to non-majors. As such, most of the students enrolled in upper division history courses are majors, but in each course it is likely that a few non-majors enroll. Completion of the courses is the primary way students complete PSLO3.

Acceptable Target:

70 percent with a C grade or better.

PSLO 4

Outcome: Demonstrate mastery of the discipline's scholarship

Demonstrate mastery of the discipline's scholarship by: putting specific research focus in the context of larger historical patterns; identifying an appropriate research project, and with it both the primary and secondary sources needed to carry it through; reading and assessing both of these kinds of sources in terms of the focused research project; and, conceptualizing, organizing, and writing a scholarly paper presenting the result of this scholarship.

▼ **Measure:** Portfolio
Course level Direct - Portfolio

Details/Description: The exclusive direct measure of success for this PSLO is mastery in HI399, the department's capstone course. Students write a research paper of at least twenty- five pages on a topic of their choice. The paper must include a clearly stated thesis, a historiography of sources pertinent to the topic, and original research, primary source driven, to support the student's original thesis. The paper must adhere to appropriate writing conventions and use correctly Turabian (CMS) citation style. Students have to pass the course with a C or better in order for the course to count for major credit. Students also prepare and present an oral presentation based on their work at the culmination of the semester.

Acceptable Target: 70 percent of students with a grade of C or better.

Analysis and Reporting Calendar

Data are collected and analyzed for each PSLO (1-4) annually.

Stakeholder Involvement

Faculty collaborate with the department assessment liaison in the construction of the annual assessment report. The liaison shares the results of the report with faculty via email and department web site. Faculty meet in the fall to discuss areas of concern in the report and assess whether or not changes in the plan (PSLOs, data collection methods, curriculum adjustments, etc.) are warranted. Parallel to the department's program review cycle the faculty will analyze all parts of the assessment plan (Program Assessment Plan Review Cycle) to determine whether or not all parts serve the department's purposes. The liaison and the department chair communicate frequently about the evolving nature of assessment at the University and any changes that need to be made in the plan to address the University assessment requirements.

Program Assessment Plan Review Cycle

The Program Assessment Plan is reviewed at a minimum once every 6 years.

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