

History Outcomes Assessment Plan

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES & OUTCOMES

The program objectives for the B.A. and B.S. in History are to encourage the development of historical knowledge, reasoning, and research skills, as well as communication skills. Specific program outcomes are identified below.

ASSESSMENTS

History 2020 Exit Survey Fall semester

History 2021 Exit Survey Spring semester

Graduating seniors

HIST 4500 Research Paper Rubric (corresponds to program objectives)

HIST 4500 Exit Survey.doc

INTENDED STUDENT OUTCOMES

1. At least 85% of students will have a major GPA of 3.0 or higher.
2. At least 85% of students completing the HIST 4500 Senior Seminar research paper will perform at an acceptable (3) or exemplary (4) level on each of the six elements of the Research Paper Rubric. These six elements align with program outcomes 2a, 2b, 2c, 3a, and 3b.
3. At least 85% of respondents on the HIST 4500 Exit Survey will respond with “Strongly Agree” (4) or “Agree” (3) to General Impression About the History Major and The Goals of the History Major.

PROGRAM REVIEW CYCLE

Fall Collect and tabulate HIST 4500 data and History 2020 data

Spring Collect and tabulate History 2021 data
At the May Historians’ Retreat complete the “Data Review and Analysis” form, which identifies what may be learned from the data and what actions will be taken.

Program Outcomes

1. Historical Knowledge

Graduates of the history program should understand the diversity of human experience in the past, as well as the nature of the historical enterprise. Specifically, graduates should demonstrate that they can:

- a. explain the historical development and significance of important events, institutions, and ideas in United States and world history;
- b. apply different approaches to and methods of historical study.

2. Historical Reasoning and Research

Graduates of the history program should understand the nature of historical interpretation, the variety of historical sources, and the structure of historical arguments. Specifically, graduates should demonstrate that they can:

- a. pose a significant research question about history;
- b. locate, explain, evaluate, and utilize information from and about the past to answer a research question;
- c. interpret a variety of primary sources, evaluate secondary sources, and utilize both types of sources to support a historical argument.

3. Communication

Graduates of the history program should be able to demonstrate that they are critical readers and writers of history. Specifically, graduates should demonstrate that they have:

- a. mastered the written and oral forms of communication appropriate to history, such as the critical review, analytical summaries of historical events and arguments, and the research paper

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- b. enhanced their computer literacy through use and creation of web-based materials