



Program Assessment Report (PAR)

History (HST) Baccalaureate Degree

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ACADEMIC YEAR COVERED BY THIS REPORT: 2020-2021

I. PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will learn to craft historical narrative and argument.

II. PROCEDURES USED FOR ASSESSMENT

A. Direct Assessment

History reviews all HST 4900 final capstone papers for the academic year against a five-category rubric for answers to these three questions 1. Does the author write a historical argument that is reasoned and based on historical evidence selected, arranged, and analyzed? 2. Does the author write an effective narrative that describes and analyzes the past for its use in the present? 3. Does the author demonstrate an understanding that the ethics and practice of history means recognizing and building on other scholars' work, peer review, and citation?

B. Scoring of Student Work

The Undergraduate Curriculum Committee for the Department of History evaluated each paper according to a five-point scale against each of the three questions. A score of 1 represented the worst evaluation, and a score of 5 represented the best evaluation.

C. Indirect Assessment

No indirect assessment was undertaken.

III. ASSESSMENT RESULTS/INFORMATION:

In academic year 2020-2021, the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee evaluated the calendar year 2020 papers against the rubric questions. Student papers met the desired objectives.

The Undergraduate Curriculum Committee evaluated the year 2020 papers. Student papers met the objectives in the three benchmark questions. Faculty have shared through the curriculum committee and across the department committee individual observations about preparation. The contraction in enrollment will mean smaller class sizes, which should lead to an observable change in the amount of student attention by the faculty member.

IV. ACTIONS TO IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING

The need for curricular review and utilization of feedback from the annual assessment exercise is discussed by the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee in History with a view to revising the major, the capstone course, the gateway HST 3000 Introduction to Historical Methods, and potential connections to the feeder courses at partner community colleges.

V. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Additional documentation, when provided, is stored in the internal Academic Program Assessment of Student Learning SharePoint site.