



## **Program Assessment Report (PAR)**

### **Liberal Studies (LS) Associate Degree**

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**ACADEMIC YEAR COVERED BY THIS REPORT:** 2020-2021

### **I. PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Learning Outcome 1 Graduates will be able to demonstrate effective written and communication skills. Learning Outcome 2 Graduates will be able to systematically access, analyze, and evaluate information and ideas from multiple sources in order to identify underlying assumptions and formulate conclusions. Learning Outcome 3 Graduates will be able to create and support arguments using a variety of approaches.

### **II. PROCEDURES USED FOR ASSESSMENT**

#### **A. Direct Assessment**

Assessment of Learning Outcome 1: Instructor will choose one of the completed essays & examine for writing ability for an IW course. Assessment of Learning Outcome 2: In various IW courses, students are asked to approach texts from a variety of perspectives (e.g. visual) while using secondary sources to draw conclusions about primary texts. The instructor will choose assignments at random to assess students' ability to formally engage with the material. Assessment for Learning Outcome 3: The instructor will specifically choose argumentative essays from ENG 2100: Research Writing and Argumentation to assess this outcome.

#### **B. Scoring of Student Work**

2020-2021: There were 2 enrolled students in this program, and two separate graduates. Only one of the enrolled students has taken a course that is part of

the assessment plan. To assess learning outcome one, that student's essay was evaluated based on the AACU Written Communication rubric. The two graduating students were not previously enrolled in the program and did not have Lake Campus artifacts available for assessment because they transferred in the courses that were part of the assessment plan.

### **C. Indirect Assessment**

No indirect assessment has taken place at this time.

## **III. ASSESSMENT RESULTS/INFORMATION:**

2020-2021: The student who was enrolled in this program who had taken relevant coursework scored a Milestone 3 for learning outcome 1 (written communication).

One of the challenges of assessing low enrollment programs that sometimes function as ways for students to leave their college experience with a credential, even if they haven't completed the intended BA degree, is that much of the coursework is transferred in and therefore student artifacts are difficult to obtain. In the future, it is recommended that indirect assessment be used to try to fill in these assessment gaps, although in the case of students who have transferred in the relevant credits, these indirect assessments would have little bearing on the program offered at Lake Campus, since most of the courses were not taken at the Lake Campus. Recommendation Of the students with artifacts available, learning outcome 3 is being adequately met. There are no recommended changes at the course level or the curriculum level at this time.

[Analysis]

## **IV. ACTIONS TO IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING**

At this time, we do not have plans to significantly modify curriculum, assignments, or advising.

## **V. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

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

