

Core Assessment Element 3 Report

Date Report Submitted: April 2, 2019

Element: Core Element 3 – Global Traditions

Academic Year: 2017-2018

Course and Sections Assessed: PLS 2510, Sections 1 and 90

Assessment Plan:

To use a written assignment to assess the following learning outcomes:

1. Critically describe some of the political, social or economic systems, historical, cultural or spiritual traditions, and/or technological innovations around the world.
2. Demonstrate an awareness of the diversity of people or traditions in our world in ways that promote effective engagement, both locally and globally.
3. Use political, social, economic, historical, cultural, spiritual or technological knowledge to evaluate contemporary issue

We collected written assignments that addressed outcome(s) 1, 2, 3 and assessed them against the rubric (as planned).

Assessment Data Collection:

There were no variations from the plan in terms of data collection. We collected and assessed 34 papers submitted through Pilot. As planned, each section used a different assignment, but both used assignments identified in the approved assessment plan.

Assessment Results:

These are the overall results from the Watermark Aqua review of student artifacts:

Understanding Global Systems

Average Score: 2.65

Number of Submissions: 34

Number of Scores: 34

Knowledge of Cultural Worldview Frameworks

Average Score: 2.79

Number of Submissions: 34

Number of Scores: 34

Content Development

Average Score: 2.44

Number of Submissions: 34

Number of Scores: 34

Sources and Evidence

Average Score: 2.09
Number of Submissions: 34
Number of Scores: 34

These are the results for PLS 2510, Section 1:

Understanding Global Systems

Average Score: 2.44
Number of Submissions: 16
Number of Scores: 16

Knowledge of Cultural Worldview Frameworks

Average Score: 2.63
Number of Submissions: 16
Number of Scores: 16

Content Development

Average Score: 2.06
Number of Submissions: 16
Number of Scores: 16

Sources and Evidence

Average Score: 2.44
Number of Submissions: 16
Number of Scores: 16

These are the results for PLS 2510, Section 90:

Understanding Global Systems

Average Score: 2.83
Number of Submissions: 18
Number of Scores: 18

Knowledge of Cultural Worldview Frameworks

Average Score: 2.94
Number of Submissions: 18
Number of Scores: 18

Content Development

Average Score: 2.78
Number of Submissions: 18
Number of Scores: 18

Sources and Evidence

Average Score: 1.78
Number of Submissions: 18
Number of Scores: 18

Assessment Feedback:

All the interested parties received the Aqua results and this report via email.

Although there is room for improvement in student performance in both sections, the difference between the sections is within a range of .72. Although the instructors will be interested to see these results and will likely emphasize the importance of content development as well as sources and evidence, there is no planned change to the course based on this assessment.

We do recommend a revision of the rubric to add clarity, as there was some uncertainty over how to distinguish between some of the criteria in the rubric. It might also be helpful to have the same people assess both sections of the course next time, to ensure consistency.

One of us also pointed out that the three Core Learning Outcomes could be better differentiated, as there is a lot of overlap between them.

The assessment results have been shared with the department curriculum committee.

Assessment Administration Feedback

The assessment of the courses was part of the Core assessment cycle. The assessment plan was reviewed and approved by the UCOC. The UCOC provided a presentation on tools available to assist with the assessment, including Watermark Aqua.