Core Assessment Element 3 Report

Date Report Submitted: April 1, 2019

Element: Core Element 3 – Global Traditions

Academic Year: 2017-2018

Course and Sections Assessed: URS 2000, Sections
02, 90, 91, 92, 93

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, 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 or technological knowledge to evaluate contemporary issues.

We collected written assignments that addressed outcome(s) 1, 2, 3 and assessed them against the rubric (which was an approved option) instead of using marker questions.

Assessment Data Collection:
There were no variations from the plan in terms of data collection. We collected and assessed 42 papers submitted through Pilot.

Assessment Results:
These are the overall results from the Watermark Aqua review of student artifacts (42 submissions):
     Understanding Global Systems Average Score: 2.4
     Knowledge of Cultural Worldview Frameworks Average Score: 2.21
     Content Development Average Score: 2.67

The results for Section 02 (6 submissions):
     Understanding Global Systems Average Score: 1.67
     Knowledge of Cultural Worldview Frameworks Average Score: 1.83
     Content Development Average Score: 3

The results for Section 90 (6 submissions):
     Understanding Global Systems Average Score: 2.5
     Knowledge of Cultural Worldview Frameworks Average Score: 2
     Content Development Average Score: 2.83

The results for Section 91 (6 submissions):
      Understanding Global Systems Average Score: 1.67
      Knowledge of Cultural Worldview Frameworks Average Score: 1.67
      Content Development Average Score: 2.33

The results for Section 92 (12 submissions):
      Understanding Global Systems Average Score: 2.75
      Knowledge of Cultural Worldview Frameworks Average Score: 2.58
      Content Development Average Score: 3

The results for Section 93 (12 submissions):
      Understanding Global Systems Average Score: 2.75
      Knowledge of cultural worldview frameworks Average Score: 2.42
      Content Development Average Score: 2.25

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 all sections, the difference between the sections ranges by one point or more on all three criteria, but especially criteria three: content development (interestingly, one of the sections with the lowest scores on criteria one and two had the highest score for content development). Although the instructors will be interested to see these results and will likely consider ways to improve these scores in the future, there is no planned change to the course based on this assessment.

We recognize that the small sample size, especially for three of the sections, is problematic and plan to assess a larger proportion of the papers in each section next time. We recommend a revision of the rubric to add clarity, as uncertainty over how to distinguish criteria one and two may have affected the assessment. It might also be helpful to have the same people assess all sections of the course next time, to ensure consistency.

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.

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