

Texas Southern University
Assessment Narrative
Academic Year 2007-08 thru 2009-10

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Program: Master of Arts in History

THECB CIP Code 54.0101.00

The mission of the M.A. program in history is to provide our students with an understanding of history and the historical process, provide them a detailed knowledge of historical content, and give them the skills to analyze historical data and write coherent and analytical historical essays, conduct individual research projects, and present their work in written and oral form.

Goal 1

To provide studies in specific areas in history, including American history, African American history, European/world history, and/or African history and to introduce students to historiography and the historical process.

Outcome 1.1 – Students will demonstrate knowledge in American, African American, European/world, and/or African History

The metric used to measure the success of this outcome for each of the three years (2008-2010) is comprehensive exam scores. The target for each of the three years is that 90% of students will score 70 percent or better on all content based sections of their comprehensive exam prior to graduation.

Findings (2008-2010)

The assessment results from the Department's Comprehensive Exam for M.A history for the period of 2007-2008 through 2009-2010 showed that the program has met its achievement target for this outcome. For all three years, 100% of our students scored 70% or better on all sections of the comprehensive exam. Despite this success, action plans were developed to emphasize continuous improvement.

Goal 2

To introduce students to historiography and the historical process.

Outcome 1.2 –Students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the major themes and issues in historiography

Comprehensive exam scores were used as the metric to measure the success of this outcome. The target for all three years was that 90% of students will score 70% or better on the sections of the comprehensive exam addressing historiography.

Findings (2008-2010)

The assessment results from the Department's Comprehensive Exam for M.A history for the period of 2007-2008 through 2009-2010 showed that the program has met its achievement target for this outcome. For all three years, 100% of our students scored 70% or better on the comprehensive exam.

Goal 3

To introduce the techniques and skills necessary to conduct graduate-level research in history, including the identification and analysis of appropriate sources and the use of these sources to analyze a historical problem.

Outcome 3.1 – Students will demonstrate research skills appropriate to the discipline and use these skills to conduct graduate level research projects

The metric used to measure the success of this outcome is scores on the comprehensive assessment. The targets for each of the three years is that 90% of students will score a 70% or better on the comprehensive assessment.

Findings (2008-2010)

For each of the three years, 100 percent of students scored at least 70 percent on the comprehensive assessment.

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Action Plan Summary (All Findings)

2007-2008

- Monitor/review and improve quality of research skills learned and research papers produced in HIST 734 (Non-Thesis seminar course).
- Monitor/review/improve quality of research skills learned and thesis produced in HIST799 (three credit hours Thesis course).

2008-2009

- Continue monitoring/reviewing and improving quality of research skills learned and research papers produced in HIST 734 (Non-Thesis seminar course).
- Continue monitoring/reviewing/improving quality of research skills learned and thesis produced in HIST799 (three credit hours).

2009-2010

- Continue monitoring/reviewing and improving quality of research skills learned and research papers produced in HIST 734 (Non-Thesis seminar course).
- Continue monitoring/reviewing/improving quality of research skills learned and thesis produced in HIST799 (three credit hours).

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Goal	Student Learning Outcomes/ Objectives	Metric	Target			Findings			Action Plan	Reference Document
			2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10		
Goal 1 To provide a study in specific areas in history, including American history, African American history, European/World history, and/or African history	SLO 1.1 Students will demonstrate knowledge in American, African American, European/world, and/or African History	Comprehensive assessment scores	90% of students will score 70% or better on all content based sections of their comprehensive exam prior to graduation	90% of students will score 70% or better on all content based sections of their comprehensive exam prior to graduation	90% of students will score 70% or better on all content based sections of their comprehensive exam prior to graduation	100% of students scored 70% or better on the comprehensive exam	100% of students scored 70% or better on the comprehensive exam	100% of students scored 70% or better on the comprehensive exam	Based on 2007-2008 Findings Plan to improve Comprehensive Exam – standardize the number of questions and the content areas of questions in the comprehensive exam Design HIST799, a three credit hour Thesis course and add to the curriculum require students selecting the thesis option to take the course in each of two successive semesters while writing thesis Based on 2008-2009 Findings Continue to improve Comprehensive Exam – standardize the number of questions and the content areas of questions in the comprehensive exam Modify the assessment of the seminar paper required in HIST 734 (a non-thesis research seminar course) that is used for assessing non-thesis students	R1 Comprehensive Exam Assessment scores
Goal 2 To introduce students to historiography and the historical process	SLO 2.1 Students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the major themes and issues in historiography	Comprehensive assessment scores	90% of students will receive a 70% or better score on the sections of the comprehensive exam addressing historiography	90% of students will receive a 70% or better score on the sections of the comprehensive exam addressing historiography	90% of students will receive a 70% or better score on the sections of the comprehensive exam addressing historiography	100% of students scored 70% or better on the sections of the comprehensive exam addressing historiography	100% of students scored 70% or better on the sections of the comprehensive exam addressing historiography	100% of students scored 70% or better on the sections of the comprehensive exam addressing historiography		

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Goal	Student Learning Outcomes/ Objectives	Metric	Target			Findings			Action Plan	Reference Document
			2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10		
Goal 3 To introduce the techniques and skills necessary to conduct graduate-level research in history, including the identification and analysis of appropriate sources and the use of these sources to analyze a historical problem	SLO 3.1 Students will demonstrate research skills appropriate to the discipline	Comprehensive assessment scores	90% of students will receive a 70% or better score on the sections of the exam addressing research	90% of students will receive a 70% or better score on the sections of the exam addressing research	90% of students will receive a 70% or better score on the sections of the exam addressing research	100% of students received a minimum score of 70 percent in HIST 734	100% of students received a minimum score of 70 percent in HIST 734	100% of students received a minimum score of 70 percent in HIST 734	Add HIST799 MA Thesis to the curriculum and begin offering in the fall of 2010 Based on 2009-2010 Findings Continue monitoring/ reviewing and redesigning Comprehensive Exam Continue monitoring/ reviewing and modifying the assessment of the seminar research paper used to assess the non-thesis students Continue monitoring/ reviewing HIST799 MA Thesis course	R1 Comprehensive Exam Assessment scores