

GBC Class/Course Assessment Report

Course Prefix, Number, and Title: HIST 417C The West as National Experience
 Section Number(s): 1001
 Department: Social Science
 Instructor: Jonathan Foster

Academic Year: 2020
 Semester: Fall
 Is this a GenEd class? Yes ___ No X

Complete and submit your assessment report electronically to your department chair. As needed, please attach supporting documents and/or a narrative description of the assessment activities. You may use as many or as few outcomes as necessary.

Class/Course Outcomes	Assessment Measures	Assessment Results	Outcome Results Analysis
<p>In the boxes below, summarize the outcomes assessed in your class or course during the last year. If this is a GenEd class, include the appropriate GenEd objectives.</p>	<p>In the boxes below, summarize the methods used to assess course outcomes during the last year. Include the criterion you'll use to judge whether or not students have achieved the expected outcome.</p>	<p>In the boxes below, summarize the results of your assessment activities during the last year. Include your judgement as to whether or not the criterion for student achievement has been met.</p>	<p>In the boxes below, please reflect on this outcome's results and summarize how you plan to use the results to improve student learning.</p>
<p>Outcome #1: Demonstrate knowledge of significant themes, issues, and events of the U.S. West's history</p>	<p>Assessment Measure: Exams (selected grading criteria and/or questions). Criterion for achievement: 70 percent of students score 75 percent or better on exams.</p>	<p>Results: 82.5 percent of students who took the exams scored 75 percent or greater on the exams. Criterion Met: Yes</p>	<p>1. Results Analysis: Students displayed a strong knowledge of significant themes, issues and events covered relative to the U.S. West's history. However, I am convinced based on other results that students would benefit from more coverage of significant themes, issues and events that occurred on the national level. This would provide more context for the western developments that I have emphasized in this course (as there is no U.S. History prerequisite for this course). This would be relevant, as the course examines the U.S. as national experience and depends on knowledge of various themes and events in</p>

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			<p>U.S. History.</p> <p>2. Action Plan: Incorporate more coverage of significant events, themes, and issues of U.S. History into course content.</p>
<p>Outcome #2:</p> <p>Identify and analyze the role of the U.S. West in the wider context of U.S. History.</p>	<p>Assessment Measure:</p> <p>Research paper (selected grading criteria).</p> <p>Criterion for achievement: 70 percent or greater of students having no points deducted from their paper for needing to have address more extensively the national context in relation to the western topic explored in their paper.</p>	<p>Results:</p> <p>61.3 received no deduction of points for needing to have addressed more extensively the national context in relation to the western topic explored in their paper.</p> <p>Criterion Met: No</p>	<p>1. Results Analysis:</p> <p>Students struggled to connect historical issues and events that occurred in the West with their national context. This indicates a lack of preexisting knowledge of U.S. history on the part of a significant number of students. It should be noted that lower-division work in U.S. history is not a prerequisite for this course.</p> <p>2. Action Plan: Include more coverage of significant events, issues, and themes in U.S. national history in the course.</p>
<p>Outcome #3:</p> <p>Identify and analyze the U.S. West as an historical idea and as a distinct region.</p>	<p>Assessment Measure:</p> <p>Exams (selected grading criteria and/or questions).</p> <p>Criterion for achievement: 70 percent or greater of students scoring 75 percent or greater on Exam 1 and 2's essay questions.</p>	<p>Results:</p> <p>77.7 percent of students scored 75 percent or greater on both exam's essay questions.</p> <p>Criterion Met: Yes</p>	<p>1. Results Analysis:</p> <p>Students performed well on essay questions that addressed perceptions of the U.S. West and the historical characteristics of the West as a region.</p> <p>2. Action Plan: Retain current practices.</p>

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<p>Outcome #4:</p> <p>Demonstrate accurate knowledge of the chronological sequence of U.S. History and the U.S. West.</p>	<p>Assessment Measure:</p> <p>Exams (selected grading criteria and/or questions).</p> <p>Criterion for achievement: 70 percent of exam takers receiving full points for the chronology/time frame requirement of the exams' triad identification questions.</p>	<p>Results:</p> <p>79.4 percent of exam takers received full credit for the chronology/time frame identification requirement of the two exams' triad identification questions.</p> <p>Criterion Met: Yes</p>	<p>1. Results Analysis:</p> <p>Students performed above my expectations in terms of demonstrating knowledge of the time frame and chronological sequences of historical events and issues covered in this course.</p> <p>2. Action Plan: Retain current practices.</p>
<p>Outcome #5:</p> <p>Analyze and evaluate historical interpretations of the U.S. West.</p>	<p>Assessment Measure:</p> <p>Book review.</p> <p>Criterion for achievement: 70 percent of students scoring 75 or greater on the required book review.</p>	<p>Results:</p> <p>86.7 percent of students who submitted the required book review scored 75 percent or greater.</p> <p>Criterion Met: Yes</p>	<p>1. Results Analysis:</p> <p>Students impressed me with their ability to critically evaluate and analyze scholarly works of history. Most students were able to identify a book's main argument and discuss its strengths and weaknesses as a scholarly work of history.</p> <p>2. Action Plan: Retain current practices.</p>

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<p>Outcome #6:</p> <p>Develop and express evidence-based ideas and arguments based on historical research clearly in written format.</p>	<p>Assessment Measure:</p> <p>Research paper (selected grading criteria).</p> <p>Criterion for achievement: 70 percent of students who submitted the research paper score above the rubric's C to D range on the both the Research and Readability grading criteria.</p>	<p>Results:</p> <p>59.4 percent of students scored above the rubric's C to D range on both the Research and Readability grading criteria.</p> <p>Criterion Met: No</p>	<p>1. Results Analysis:</p> <p>I am not satisfied with the results for this outcome. Students struggled with writing their papers and identifying acceptable academic peer-reviewed sources in their research.</p> <p>2. Action Plan: Although I expect students to have developed adequate writing and research skills prior to enrolling in upper-division courses, I will devote additional time to these topics going forward.</p>
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Notes:

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I have reviewed this report:

Department Chair

Date _____

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Date _____

Vice President of Academic Affairs and Student Services

Date _____