

Assessment Plan: History/History Teaching

The History Department measures its effectiveness at various points in the students' time as majors. First, the department has developed a basic rubric using our learning objectives, and each course in the major targets two-three learning objectives. Faculty list these objectives in their syllabi, grade using our standard rubric or clear language identifying these objectives. Every two years, faculty "test" the objectives in their courses using pre- and post-exams or targeted writing assignments. Those measures for the last cycle are available on our website. We also collect targeted survey data from students in our two required courses: HIST 3000 (the sophomore-level methods course) and HIST 4990 (the capstone). These indirect measures are tabulated and used for annual departmental discussion.

The best indicator of success toward our learning outcomes comes in the form of inter-rater reliability work based on the HIST 4990 course. We collect oral presentations from all seniors in our HIST 4990 class that are based on their research papers. These videos are "graded" by departmental faculty using a standard rubric, then the results are tabulated and discussed by the faculty annually. We post the results of these direct measures on our assessment website each year.

Beginning in 2020, History Teaching majors will be assessed using the same measures and will take the same required capstone course. Prior to 2020, History Teaching majors were assessed according to Praxis exam results, but the content Praxis exam has now been eliminated from the licensure process. Older results continue to be listed on our assessment website.

The rubric we use as a basis for our HIST 4990 written and oral assessment is listed below. As a benchmark score, we use the equivalent of a C+ (which is required to graduate), which translates to a score of 3.08 or better in each category or 12.32 total. Older assessment scores on our website include a more complicated rubric with a different set of scores. This current rubric was implemented in Fall 2019 and will be used for at least three years.

Interrater Reliability Assessment
HIST 4990

Please place a check mark in the box
that corresponds to your rating

Learning Outcomes	Exceeds Expectations	Meets Expectations	Needs Work	Did not complete
Historical Thinking: Articulates an appropriate historical argument (thesis)				
Historical Knowledge: Evaluates secondary sources and shows an awareness of interpretive differences (historiography)				
Historical Knowledge: Presents and interprets appropriate primary sources to support the thesis (sources/evidence)				
Historical Skills: frames and competently presents findings of the research (presentation)				
Reviewer Name:				
Student Name:				