

# Assessment Plan & Student Learning Outcomes

## History (BA)

**Mission:** The BA in history develops students' ability to use evidence from the past to reconstruct what happened and why, and to analyze how different cultures have interacted and how societies change. These goals help fulfill the University mission of an effective liberal arts education. Its emphasis on research and analysis supports the University's mission to reason critically, to analyze, evaluate and create knowledge, and its strong international component supports the University's international mission.

### Outcome: Historical Context and Significance

Put historical events in context, that is, understand their significance in relation to historical themes

**Outcome Status:** Active

**Outcome Type:** Academic Program Learning

**Start Date:** 07/01/2009

#### Specific Assessments

**Course Assignment(s)** - A writing assignment that demonstrates the students ability to put historical events in context. Such writing assignments might include an article/book review; bibliography; abstract/prospectus; journal/reaction paper; primary document evaluation; or research paper. Competency will be demonstrated by a median average of 2 or better on the "Historical Context and Significance" rubric. (Active)

**Criterion:** 70% of students will achieve a median rubric result of competent or better. In addition, students will be scored in the separate sub-elements of the rubric.

**Related Documents:**

["Historical Context and Significance" rubric](#)

**Course Grade(s)** - Completion of World History I and II or Global History I and II; as well as United States History I and II at a level of competence or better. Competence will be demonstrated by students earning 70% or more of the total course points. (Active)

**Criterion:** 70% of assessed students will achieve a competent result.

#### Related Courses

**HIST101** - World History 1

**HIST102** - World History 2

**HIST111** - Global History 1

**HIST112** - Global History 2

**HIST201** - History of the United States 1

**HIST202** - History of the United States 2

### Outcome: Critical Thinking and Research

Demonstrate historical reasoning. Be able to evaluate the structure of an author's argument and one's use of sources; be able to

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recognize biases and assumptions. Be able to construct an original historical question; make use of library and other resources; construct a bibliography of secondary sources; identify primary sources and be able to interpret and contextualize them.

**Outcome Status:** Active

**Outcome Type:** Academic Program Learning

**Start Date:** 07/01/2009

## Specific Assessments

**Course Assignment(s)** - A writing assignment that demonstrates the students ability to conduct research, evaluate sources, analyze data, and/or synthesize information using historical methodologies. Such writing assignments might include an article/book review; bibliography; abstract/prospectus; journal/reaction paper; primary document evaluation; or research paper. Competency will be demonstrated by a median average of 2 or better on the "Critical Thinking and Research" rubric. (Active)

**Criterion:** 70% of students will achieve a median rubric result of competent or better. In addition, students will be scored in the separate sub-elements of the rubric.

**Related Documents:**

["Critical Thinking and Research" rubric for writing](#)

["Critical Thinking and Research" rubric for reading](#)

**Course Grade(s)** - Completion of Hist200: Historical Thinking and Writing at a level of competence or better. Competence will be demonstrated by students earning 70% or more of the total course points. (Active)

**Criterion:** 70% of assessed students will achieve a competent result.

## Related Courses

**HIST200** - Historical Thinking and Writing

## Outcome: In-depth Analysis

Apply skills learned in foundational courses to an in-depth study of a region, theme or era.

**Outcome Status:** Active

**Outcome Type:** Academic Program Learning

**Start Date:** 07/01/2009

## Specific Assessments

**Course Grade(s)** - Completion of 300/400 designation History courses at a level of competence or better. Competence will be demonstrated by students earning 70% or more of the total course points. (Active)

**Criterion:** 70% of assessed students will achieve a competent result.

## Outcome: Empathy

Demonstrate historical empathy, that is, an appreciation for other cultures in other times

**Outcome Status:** Active

**Outcome Type:** Academic Program Learning

**Start Date:** 07/01/2009

## Specific Assessments

**Course Assignment(s)** - A writing assignment that demonstrates appreciation for other cultures in other times. Such writing assignments might include an article/book review; bibliography; abstract/prospectus; journal/reaction paper; primary document

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evaluation; or research paper. Competency will be demonstrated by a median average of 2 or better on the "Empathy" rubric. (Active)

**Criterion:** 70% of students will achieve a median rubric result of competent or better. In addition, students will be scored in the separate sub-elements of the rubric.

**Related Documents:**

["Empathy" rubric](#)

**Course Grade(s)** - Completion of a non-western history course at a level of competence or better. Competence will be demonstrated by students earning 70% or more of the total course points. (Active)

**Criterion:** 70% of assessed students will achieve a competent result.