Gender Studies Assessment Plan

Overall student learning goals for the program

- to introduce students to the academic analysis of gender in discipline-appropriate ways
- to help students develop the skills necessary to understand, analyze, and engage gender-related issues on their own

Every course / every semester

- before each semester professors will be sent a reminder to include a learning objective clearly relevant to Gender Studies on their course syllabuses (regardless of whether or not they participate in the fuller assessment cycle for that semester)
- before each semester professors will be invited to opt in to the assessment cycle for that semester
- near the end of each semester professors will be sent a reminder to include a question related to Gender Studies on their course questionnaires (regardless of whether or not they participate in the fuller assessment cycle for that semester): e.g., how did the course contribute to each student's understanding, interpretation, and analysis of gender issues? how did particular assignments contribute to that goal?

Direct assessment

- professors opting in to the fuller assessment cycle for a given semester will:
 - choose one assignment from the course to assess; the assignment should be clearly related to a Gender Studies learning objective on the syllabus
 - compile results of the assignment: how many students met the assignment's objective excellently? solidly? poorly?
 - reflect on the results of the assignment: how well did the assignment meet the needs of the course and help students to achieve the learning objective?
 - meet with one another at the beginning of the following semester to share assignments, discuss results, and discuss possible changes based on the assessment

Indirect assessment

- professors opting in to the assessment cycle for a given semester will:
 - be sure to include a question or two related to the Gender Studies learning objectives on their course questionnaires
 - compile the answers to those questions
 - share and discuss the results at the assessment meeting
 - make changes to their courses as appropriate, based on what the assessment process and conversation revealed

Report

- the Gender Studies chair will facilitate the faculty conversations and will use the materials discussed at the assessment meetings in order to compile the year's assessment report