

## **Departmental Assessment Meeting: Report**

Please fill out this report based on your department's conversation and return via e-mail to Megan Leonard or Sasha Pfau by March 31, 2017.

### **Summary of past decisions**

Please summarize up to three departmental changes made since the last HLC visit (08-09) the impetus for those changes and any changes to information gathering about student development.

The Interdisciplinary Minors Program was established in 2016 as an umbrella program for unattached interdisciplinary minors in order to consolidate administration, budgeting, and assessment of these programs (currently Africana Studies, Asian Studies, and Gender Studies) and to promote and support interdisciplinary programming on campus outside established majors. These programs have had small numbers of graduating minors, but have served as important centers of student and faculty interest and programming on campus. An important impetus for bringing them into a single administrative program was to enable more meaningful assessment of student learning in these programs (each program has had student assessment plans, but too few students to produce any meaningful data). We have worked this year to craft new learning goals and an assessment plan that will allow us to gather data on student outcomes in current minor programs as well as other interdisciplinary minor programs that may be developed in the future.

### **Looking forward**

Please summarize your department's focus for student development and your evaluation methods.

We are in the process of finalizing our Student Assessment Plan, and plan to begin assessing student outcomes this year. We hope by next year to have data to inform the further development of the program.

### **Achieving departmental goals for students**

Please explain how your departmental curriculum achieves your student learning goals, being sure to include the Capstone. Feel free to attach a curricular map or other supporting documents. Summarize the ways your department provides guidance in the effective use of research and information resources.

Our program currently features three interdisciplinary minors. Students earning a minor in one of our programs will:

- 1) Cultivate knowledge of and meaningful engagement with ideas and issues related to their minor topic.
- 2) Explore, connect, and apply a variety of disciplinary approaches to the study of their minor topic.

Each of our programs feature curricular requirements that mandate the examination of the minor topic in some depth (five to six courses) and from multiple disciplinary perspectives. We plan to evaluate student achievement of these learning goals through the following assessment tools:

- 1) Faculty mediated senior exit conversation, wherein program faculty members will engage graduating seniors across our programs in a discussion of their experience in the minor, through which the faculty members will assess students' achievement of our learning goals.
- 2) An anonymous senior exit survey which will elicit student perceptions of their achievement of our learning goals, the coherence of the minor, availability of courses, value of minor programming, etc.

**Your department's role in achieving the college's shared goals for students**

Please explain how your departmental learning goals contribute to the Vision for Student Learning Goals. Feel free to attach a map or other supporting documents.

Please see attached VSLG Map.