

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 biggest changes to our dept. have been hiring a new anthropologist (Stacey Schwartzkopf) and a new sociologist (Michael Miyawaki). These allowed us to broaden our curriculum, especially providing better coverage of Latin America, Mixed Race, and our own statistics course. In addition, existing faculty have developed new courses, on topics such as Museums, and Travel and Tourism to address student interest.

At a recent dept. retreat we reevaluated our departmental learning goals (see attached), which is published on our webpage.

Stacey Schwartzkopf also updated our exit survey for graduating seniors, which resulted in higher response rate

Looking forward

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

We conducted an external review, which emphasized our need for additional sociology faculty specializing in media and/or gender.

Based on our recent discussion of diversity and inclusion, we aspire to reach out to potential students earlier in their career through participation in fairs, speaking at local events, etc.

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.

Please see attached grid of dept. learning goals as they are met by each of our courses.

With regard to effective use of research and information resources, our dept. is among the more common users of library training offered by Bailey librarians. We also offer 4 research methods classes all with UR codes. Our new statistics course and our GIS course are especially strong users of campus information technology.

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.

Every one of the VSLG goals is matched by multiple departmental learning goals (see spreadsheet). Likewise, every one of our departmental learning goals matches at least one VSLG goal.