

2009-10 Program Assessment Update

Department & Program: Humanities

submitted by: Dr. Grant W. Smith

As one part of ongoing program assessment at Eastern Washington University, each department is asked to report on assessment results for *each* program for *at least one* Student Learning Outcome this year. Use this electronic file to report on your program assessment for AY 2009-10, and please submit it to both your Dean and to Academic Affairs (SHW 220) by Nov. 1, 2010. The following definitions explain the assessment information you'll enter in the table below:

1. **Student Learning Outcome:** The student performance or learning objective as published either in the catalog, the AIEA assessment data portal, or elsewhere in your department literature.
2. **Strategy or method of measurement:** Mode and process through which student performance data was gathered. Examples: embedded test questions in a course or courses, portfolios, in-class activities, standardized test scores, case studies, analysis of written projects, etc. Additional detailed description could describe the use of rubrics, etc. as part of the assessment process.
3. **Observations gathered from data:** The findings and analysis of those findings from the above strategies.
4. **Actions recommended based on observations:** Course (activities or content) or program changes recommended.
5. **Plan and timeline for taking action:** How the recommended actions will be implemented, and in what timeframe.
6. **Overall evaluation of progress on objective:** The extent to which the student learning outcome is still valid and the assessment of it is producing important and meaningful data.

Please fill out a separate assessment table for each program of study (e.g., one table for BA-Art, another for BAE-Visual Arts, etc.) As needed, add additional rows to the table for each student learning outcome for which you gathered assessment results during 2009-10.

1. Student Learning Outcome	2. Strategy or method of measurement	3. Observations gathered from data	4. Actions recommended based on observations	5. Plan and timetable for taking action	6. Overall evaluation of progress on objective
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1. Student Learning Outcome	2. Strategy or method of measurement	3. Observations gathered from data	4. Actions recommended based on observations	5. Plan and timetable for taking action	6. Overall evaluation of progress on objective
1. Students will distinguish basic forms and strategies of philosophy, literature, and at least one of the arts and of the social sciences.	A multiple-choice exam administered to seven students currently majoring in Humanities. Ten questions required them to distinguish basic forms and strategies of philosophy, literature, the three areas of the fine arts, and to distinguish the basic approaches of the social sciences. A copy of the exam is attached.	Findings: 24 students and former students were asked via email to participate, including recent graduates. No recent graduate responded, and most current students failed to respond because they do not check their EWU email accounts. Of respondents, one is a newly declared junior, and she scored 8 correct. Of the six seniors, four scored 9 correct, and two scored perfect 10. The only question missed by more than one student was identifying the focus of history; two circled "Cycles of events" rather than "Written documents."	The question on history was phrased in consultation with the history professor who emphasizes methods in her classes. Humanities majors need to be encouraged to take her courses. Advising students in the distribution of their courses is of primary importance to the success of this program.	No catalog change is needed in the program. Vigilance needs to be enhanced in the advising process.	Six is a representative sample of current seniors. The scores averaged above 90%, which illustrates reasonable program efficacy.

Survey for Assessment of Humanities Program

We are required to assess all programs at EWU on a periodic basis, and now is the time that we're asked to assess the Humanities program. You have been or currently are in that program. Therefore, your cooperation is very much needed and earnestly solicited.

One goal of the Humanities program is to enable students to distinguish basic forms and strategies of philosophy, literature, and at least one of the arts and of the social sciences.

Please help us fulfill this administrative mandate by answering the following ten questions to the best of your ability. Simply start a reply to this email, place an X by the choice that best answers the following questions, and then click "send." Thank you.

1. Plato described three types of subject matter for philosophers—the Good, the True, and the
a. Noble
b. False
c. Beautiful
d. Honorable
2. In traditional terms, the three modes of literature are Epic, Dramatic, and
a. Biographic
b. Epistolary
c. Short Story
d. Lyric
3. In art, the apparent convergence of railroad tracks in the distance illustrates
a. Linear perspective
b. Atmospheric perspective
c. Foreshortening
d. Futurism
4. The four elements of music are tone color, harmony, melody, and
a. Voice
b. Rhythm
c. Dynamics
d. Instrumentation
5. The study of history focuses most on the analysis of
a. Physical remains of previous human activity
b. Oral testimony
c. Written Documents
d. Cycles of events
6. The study of anthropology focuses most on the analysis of
a. Physical remains of previous human activity
b. Oral testimony
c. Written Documents
d. Cycles of events
7. Which discipline focuses most on public policy?
a. Economics
b. Government
c. Psychology
d. Sociology
8. Which discipline focuses most on risks and rewards in human choices?
a. Economics
b. Government
c. Psychology
d. Sociology
9. Which discipline focuses most on race and ethnic relations?
a. Economics
b. Government
c. Psychology
d. Sociology
10. Which discipline focuses most on human personality?
a. Economics
b. Government
c. Psychology
d. Sociology