

Department of History
University of Michigan-Flint
Assessment Plan
May 2000

Department Mission

To provide students with a "disciplined and rigorous study of the past" in which they come to understand better the operation of "processes of change" and continuity, "problems of cause and consequence, and relationships between the past and the present." (University of Michigan-Flint Catalog, 1999-2001, p. 153)

Bachelor of Arts in History

Educational Outcomes

1. Graduates should be able to critically analyze primary and secondary texts.
2. Graduates should be able to construct historical theses and arguments.
3. Graduates should be able to conduct historical research.
4. Graduates should be able to use appropriate documentation style.
5. Graduates should be able to write critically and analytically.
6. Graduates should have an enhanced understanding of the history that lies within and beyond the traditional scope the United States and Europe.

Assessment Method

1. Student Portfolio

A student portfolio will be required from all majors and will be reviewed by two faculty members during the semester the student is scheduled to graduate. The portfolio will contain:

- a. writing samples. Three writing samples must be presented. They must include the research paper produced for History 301: History Seminar and papers from a cross-section of upper division courses. Students will be asked to submit copies of papers that

do not have grades or comments by the instructor. Should papers contain grades or comments, the office staff will be asked to produce "clean" copies. Each paper will be examined by using the attached rubric, and an average will be assigned to each portfolio.

b. current resume.

c. personal statement on the student's experience including a review of the program.

2. Department of History's Alumni Survey

To be mailed to all graduates every three years.

3. University of Michigan-Flint Alumni Survey

Office of Intuitional Analysis will be asked to forward the results.

Department Goals

1-5 of Educational Outcomes.

- a. 80% of the students' portfolio average must fall into the category of 3 or higher.
- b. 60% of the graduates will agree or strongly agree with the following statement on the Department of History's Alumni Survey: *My training in history at the University of Michigan-Flint has enabled me to understand and apply the basic concepts and methods in history and historical research.*

6 of Educational Outcomes

- a. 60% of the graduates will agree or strongly agree with the following statement on the Department of History's Alumni Survey: *My training in history at the University of Michigan-Flint has enhanced my understanding of global issues.*

Feedback

Assessment issues will be placed on the agenda of the last department meeting of the academic year usually held in May. If necessary, special meetings on assessment will be convened during the semester. The assessment plan and data collected will be examined. In this process, the need for new courses, change in course content, frequency and time of course offerings, methodologies, department's mission and post requests considered to determine if adjustment is needed in the curriculum.