

Program Assessment Plan
 American University
 Academic Program: SIS: International Development - MA

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Unit's Primary Department: Intl Development

Learning Outcome: Major Schools of Thought

Describe and distinguish among the major schools of thought in International Development and be able to apply these theories to explain International Development phenomena.

Outcome Year: 2009-2010
 2010-2011
 2011-2012

Start Date: 11/12/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
Faculty teaching courses in which major debates are inherent in the course, e.g. International Devt, will use research and term papers and class participation to estimate what number of students who truly stood out (=A+/ 5), excelled (=A/ 4), were confident and capable (=A-/ 3), were not fully confident and were a little uncertain (B+/ 2) and those who were weak (=B or below/ 1). Measure Type: Written Assignment	No target identified.	No schedule identified.	Yes
Indirect: Student evaluation of their own learning in responses to the same question included in a student administered survey: Both first and second-year students are included because almost all have been through the ID survey course. Score: 0=not at all; 1=poorly; 2=fairly well; 4=well; 5=very well. Measure Type: Survey	No target identified.	No schedule identified.	Yes

Learning Outcome: Research Projects

Develop and execute research projects that integrate theory and empirical evidence and develop analytical skills.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

Start Date: 11/12/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
Faculty will assess quality of student work on their SRPs in terms of: 1) establishing a clear research question. 2) applying research methods and principles to an in-depth undertaking. 3) relating research findings to major themes in both the ID field and in the area of concentration. 4) drawing conclusions that not only include principal insights and themes, but also relate findings to selected themes in ID concentration. 4= Student excelled in all aspects 3= The integration of theory and concept was particularly well informed and well integrated.	No target identified.	No schedule identified.	Yes

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
2= Strong SRP, theory and findings were clear and well integrated but not as convincing 1= Somewhat weak on theory but the overall quality and substance of the SRP was good enough			
Measure Type: Written Assignment			
Student survey of graduating students who have completed their SRPs	No target identified.	No schedule identified.	Yes
Measure Type: Survey			

Learning Outcome: Proficiency in Literature

Attain a professional proficiency in the literature derived from their core and concentration courses.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

Start Date: 11/12/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Learning Outcome: Communication Skills

Develop their writing and speaking skills so they can clearly and effectively convey their knowledge.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

Start Date: 11/12/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Learning Outcome: Concepts and Methods

Show insightful understanding of basic concepts and methods in the field of International Development.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

Start Date: 11/12/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Learning Outcome: Foreign Language

Speak, write, and read a foreign language.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

Start Date: 11/12/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Learning Outcome: Economic Concepts

Demonstrate an ability, appropriate to the level of economics courses taken, to use economic concepts to help explain the dynamics of development, as well as the limitations of those concepts.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

Start Date: 11/12/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome