

Program Assessment Plan

American University

Academic Program: CAS: Women's and Gender Studies - BA

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Learning Outcome: Analysis

To analyze how gendered and sexual privilege and inequality have shaped various societies over time and continue to do so in the present.

Outcome Year: 2009-2010

2010-2011

2011-2012

Start Date: 04/06/2009

Outcome Status: Archived Program Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
<p>Student survey, based on written questionnaire.</p> <p>Measure Type: Survey</p>	<p>How many students rated the WGST program on each learning outcome with an aggregate score of 3.5 or better?</p>	<p>Cycle is every spring semester (year 1 and every subsequent year). The survey will be sent annually to students by e-mail and will be filled out and returned anonymously to a central location. At least two program faculty members will review the data collected in the survey. This is an indirect assessment, crucial for our understanding of student perception of the program. We will send out this survey every spring, to gather longitudinal data about student satisfaction, and in order to keep track of emerging interests and needs.</p>	Yes
<p>Evaluation of each student's senior capstone research project, prepared for WGST-500, Methods and Research in Women's and Gender Studies. Since the capstone research seminar is interdisciplinary, these projects take a wide variety of forms, from formal academic papers, to creative performances, to videos and websites, to physical installations akin to museum exhibits. All final projects must contain an evaluation of relevant scholarly literature as well as research in primary sources, and the development of an original interpretation of those sources.</p> <p>Measure Type: Final Paper/ Final Project</p>	<p>How many students satisfied the expectations of each learning outcome with an aggregate score of 3.5 or better?</p>	<p>Cycle will be once every 4 years, in the spring semester, beginning year 2. This is a direct assessment. The final projects will be evaluated by the course instructor, and by another member of the WGST faculty, by the close of the spring semester. Each reader will assign the project a 1-5 score (1--minimal evidence of the outcome being met; 5--full evidence of the outcome being met) for each learning outcome. This process will allow us to pinpoint weaknesses in particular areas of student development; research skills, understanding scholarly debates, developing original interpretations, writing/expressive skills.</p>	Yes
<p>Evaluation of each WGST student's final paper/final exam n WGST-300, Feminist Theory. Students will be able to demonstrate a command of one or more feminist/gender theories by</p>	<p>How many students satisfied the learning outcome with an aggregate score of 3.0 or better?</p>	<p>The cycle will be once every 4 years, at the close of the spring semester, beginning year 3. The final exams and final papers will</p>	Yes

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
1. analyzing current events using feminist/gender theory 2. analyzing their own life experiences using a feminist/gender framework or 3. developing coherent critiques of existing theory. Measure Type: Written Assignment		be evaluated by the course instructors and another members of the WGST faculty. Each reader will assign the project a 1-5 score (1-minimal evidence of the outcome being met; 5--full evidence of the outcome being met) for each learning outcome. This process will allow us to identify where we are most and least successful in training our students about different theoretical approaches to fields of women's, gender, and sexuality studies. The cycle will be once every 4 years, at the close of both fall and spring semesters.	

Related Courses

- WGSS-300 - Feminist and Gender Theory
- WGSS-500 - Current Issues and Research in Women's and Gender Studies

Learning Outcome: Theory

To explain various theoretical approaches to women's/gender/sexuality studies.

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

Start Date: 04/06/2009

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
Student survey, based on written questionnaire. Measure Type: Survey	How many students rated the WGST program on each learning outcome with an aggregate score of 3.5 or better?	Cycle is every spring semester (year 1 and every subsequent year). The survey will be sent annually to students by e-mail and will be filled out and returned anonymously to a central location. At least two program faculty members will review the data collected in the survey. This is an indirect assessment, crucial for our understanding of student perception of the program. We will send out this survey every spring, to gather longitudinal data about student satisfaction, and in order to keep track of emerging interests and needs.	Yes
Evaluation of each WGST student's final paper/final exam n WGSS-300, Feminist Theory. Students will be able to demonstrate a command of one or more feminist/gender theories by	How many students satisfied the learning outcome with an aggregate score of 3.0 or better?	The cycle will be once every 4 years, at the close of the spring semester, beginning year 3. The final exams and final papers will	Yes

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
1. analyzing current events using feminist/gender theory 2. analyzing their own life experiences using a feminist/gender framework or 3. developing coherent critiques of existing theory. Measure Type: Written Assignment		be evaluated by the course instructors and another members of the WGST faculty. Each reader will assign the project a 1-5 score (1-minimal evidence of the outcome being met; 5--full evidence of the outcome being met) for each learning outcome. This process will allow us to identify where we are most and least successful in training our students about different theoretical approaches to fields of women's, gender, and sexuality studies. The cycle will be once every 4 years, at the close of both fall and spring semesters.	

Related Courses

- WGS-300 - Feminist and Gender Theory

Learning Outcome: Research

To apply these theoretical approaches in research or organizing projects.

Outcome Year: 2009-2010

2010-2011

2011-2012

Start Date: 04/06/2009

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

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Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
Student survey, based on written questionnaire. Measure Type: Survey	How many students rated the WGST program on each learning outcome with an aggregate score of 3.5 or better?	Cycle is every spring semester (year 1 and every subsequent year). The survey will be sent annually to students by e-mail and will be filled out and returned anonymously to a central location. At least two program faculty members will review the data collected in the survey. This is an indirect assessment, crucial for our understanding of student perception of the program. We will send out this survey every spring, to gather longitudinal data about student satisfaction, and in order to keep track of emerging interests and needs.	Yes
Evaluation of each student's senior capstone research project, prepared for WGST-500, Methods and Research in Women's and Gender Studies. Since the capstone research seminar is interdisciplinary, these projects take a wide variety of forms, from formal academic papers, to creative performances, to videos and websites, to physical installations akin to museum exhibits. All	How many students satisfied the expectations of each learning outcome with an aggregate score of 3.5 or better?	Cycle will be once every 4 years, in the spring semester, beginning year 2. This is a direct assessment. The final projects will be evaluated by the course instructor, and by another	Yes

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
<p>final projects must contain an evaluation of relevant scholarly literature as well as research in primary sources, and the development of an original interpretation of those sources.</p> <p>Measure Type: Final Paper/ Final Project</p>		<p>member of the WGST faculty, by the close of the spring semester. Each reader will assign the project a 1-5 score (1--minimal evidence of the outcome being met; 5--full evidence of the outcome being met) for each learning outcome. This process will allow us to pinpoint weaknesses in particular areas of student development; research skills, understanding scholarly debates, developing original interpretations, writing/expressive skills.</p>	
<p>Three-pronged Evaluation of each student's experience and performance in the WGST Internship:</p> <p>a) evaluation by student, based on questionnaire b) evaluation by internship supervisor, based on questionnaire c) evaluation by AU faculty members supervising internships.</p> <p>The internship is ideally a crucial component of the WGST program, which strives to develop its majors into scholars/activists. It is here where students have the opportunity to put their theory and empirical knowledge into practice. An internship is required of all majors and minors. These measures will allow us to assess:</p> <p>1) whether given internship placements are fruitful sites for students to gain practical work and activist experience 2) whether our students are committing themselves to rigorous application of academic concepts in experiential settings 3) whether our internship system of supervision and evaluation is effective.</p> <p>Measure Type: Field Work/ Internship</p>	<p>How many internship experiences received a score or better from student evaluators? How many student internship performances received a score of 3.0 or better from supervisor, both field and AU faculty members?</p>	<p>The cycle will be once every 4 years, at the close of both fall and spring semesters. Students will evaluate the quality of their internship experience by completing a a questionnaire. AU Internship supervisors will evaluate both the students' performances and their experiences at the various internship sites based on semester-long discussions, internship journals, communications with site supervisors, and final projects. The internship is ideally a crucial component of the WGST program, which strives to develop its majors into scholars/activists. It is here where students have the opportunity to put their theory and empirical knowledge into practice. An inter</p>	Yes

Related Courses

- WGSS-500 - Current Issues and Research in Women's and Gender Studies

Learning Outcome: Research Sources

To locate appropriate research sources, both primary and secondary, in the field of women's/gender/sexuality studies.

Outcome Year: 2009-2010

2010-2011

2011-2012

Start Date: 04/06/2009

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
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<p>Student survey, based on written questionnaire.</p> <p>Measure Type: Survey</p>	<p>How many students rated the WGST program on each learning outcome with an aggregate score of 3.5 or better?</p>	<p>Cycle is every spring semester (year 1 and every subsequent year). The survey will be sent annually to students by e-mail</p>	Yes

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
		and will be filled out and returned anonymously to a central location. At least two program faculty members will review the data collected in the survey. This is an indirect assessment, crucial for our understanding of student perception of the program. We will send out this survey every spring, to gather longitudinal data about student satisfaction, and in order to keep track of emerging interests and needs.	
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Related Courses

- WGST-500 - Current Issues and Research in Women's and Gender Studies

Learning Outcome: Research Projects

To develop effective research projects in the field of women's/gender/sexuality studies.

Outcome Year: 2009-2010

2010-2011

2011-2012

Start Date: 04/06/2009

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

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		data collected in the survey. This is an indirect assessment, crucial for our understanding of student perception of the program. We will send out this survey every spring, to gather longitudinal data about student satisfaction, and in order to keep track of emerging interests and needs.	
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Related Courses

- WGST-500 - Current Issues and Research in Women's and Gender Studies