



SLO Assessment Cycle for HIST 2

Introduction to California Studies SLO Modified: [12/02/2010]

Carol Cini's Team Members:

1. [Carol Cini](#) (x8305) HIST

Additional Team members not on list/notes about team:

Additional Notes:

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Statement Modified: []

Students will demonstrate and apply knowledge of historical and various other disciplinary approaches to the study of California, and based on these approaches, will assess the challenges of public policy decision-making in California.

Assessment Cycle Records:

Outcome 1: Assessment Planning Modified: [11/26/2010]

Assessment Strategy Used:

Quarter: Fall 2010

Assessors: Carol Cini

Assessment Tools: Exams • Papers/Essays • oral presentation

Sections being assessed: 01

Outcome 1: Reflect & Enhance Modified: [04/17/2011]

Number of people involved in Phase III: 1

Changes:

Methods:

During both Fall Quarter 2010 and Winter Quarter 2011, I assigned essay exams as well as a brief research paper for History 2; in these assignments, students were expected to: 1) demonstrate their understanding of historical issues related to public policy decision-making in California, and 2) show their ability to analyze primary and secondary sources in California history. In addition, I tested the students on California geography to ensure their mastery of basic knowledge in this area related to history. Brief oral presentations by students on their research were also required.

Summary:

It was clear from the essays and research papers completed by students that those who had appropriate preparation in college-level reading and writing could do well on these assignments. However, those who had not yet passed courses in college-level reading and writing struggled with analytical essays and basic college-level research. Students' knowledge of California geography (related to historical, public policy, and environmental issues) did improve during the quarter as they were retested in this area. The majority of students did well in orally presenting their research findings regarding a California public policy issue; I did see a correlation between students who had inadequate preparation in college-level reading and writing and those who had difficulty with clear oral presentation of research results.

Enhancement (Part I):

Student learning outcomes at the community college level could be vastly improved by instituting prerequisites on a statewide basis to ensure that students have completed the reading and writing requirements necessary to do well in college-level courses. To help expedite student progress toward degrees, certificates, and transferring, realistic and specific reading and writing requirements should also be required during a student's first quarter and first year, unless the student has placed out through an assessment test or its equivalent.

Enhancement (Part II):

Hiring more full-time instructors (who would be more fully available to students, as opposed to part-time instructors who must work at several campuses in order to make ends meet) and ensuring smaller, more reasonable class sizes would allow for more effective communication

between teachers and students and would contribute to student retention. Adding a computer and projector to classrooms currently lacking such technology would also help contribute to improved student learning outcomes by allowing for more effective pedagogy through the use of a vast array of educational web resources.

Outcome 2: Statement Modified: []

Students will demonstrate the capacity to critically engage, evaluate, and employ primary and secondary source materials in the area of California Studies and to construct historical analyses based on these materials.

Outcome 2: Assessment Planning Modified: [11/26/2010]

Assessment Strategy Used:

Quarter: Fall 2010

Assessors: Carol Cini

Assessment Tools: Exams • Papers/Essays • oral presentation based on historical research

Sections being assessed: 01

Outcome 2: Reflect & Enhance Modified: [04/17/2011]

Number of people involved in Phase III: 1

Changes:

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[Number of Outcomes for HIST 2: 2]

