

Assessment of Student Learning Plan

History Program CIP Code: 450801

B.Sc./B.A. History

Content and Learning Outcomes: The discipline of history does not provide a series of skills, each level of which builds on earlier coursework. History instead offers a cumulative process of becoming historically aware through exposure to factual material and their interpretation by professionals. The Department of History's survey courses (300 and below) initiate this system through observation and analysis of broad historical trends. Exams, quizzes and writing exercises are intended to determine mastery of significant objective knowledge as well as introduce students to the discipline of writing in order to express analyses derived from research. Upper division courses (500 level) emphasize reading and research skills through contact with more narrowly focused coursework. The Advanced Seminar (hist 586) serves as the department's capstone course, permitting the student to complete an extended research project on a subject within the topic selected by the individual faculty member.

Given the significant degree of methodological overlap of the unique subject areas in the department's course offerings, it is more relevant to describe the course level rather than the specific courses in which the student is exposed to a specific learning outcome.

Learning Outcomes	KSU SLOs
Historical Content: enhanced knowledge of significant people, events, ideas, and developments in history	3. Knowledge
Awareness of Historical Method: basic knowledge of the holistic nature of history and the disciplinary tools as used by contemporary historians	3. Knowledge
Cultural Diversity: awareness and appreciation of cultural similarity and diversity over time	3. Knowledge 6. Diversity
Historical Perspective: understanding of historical perspective and how it differs from moral relativity	3. Knowledge 6. Diversity
Critical Thinking Skills: ability to critically evaluate interpretations and apply skeptical inquiry and the scientific method	2. Critical Thinking 3. Knowledge 4. Scholarship
Research Methods: familiarity with the various methods of research, data collection and analysis in history and understand their relevance to specific research topics	2. Critical Thinking 3. Knowledge 4. Scholarship
Historical Theory: understand the major theoretical perspectives and trends in history	2. Critical Thinking 3. Knowledge 4. Scholarship
Communication Skills: ability to communicate effectively through written and oral means	1. Communication
Application: ability to apply historical thinking to everyday life, function successfully in a multicultural world and nation, and make sense of social, political, and economic complexity	5. Personal & Professional Development 6. Diversity
Cultural Awareness: understand the roles played by history, culture and language in shaping world views	3. Knowledge 6. Diversity
Dynamic Nature of History: understand the study of history as a dynamic process of adaptation through innovation in theoretical perspectives or the development of new sources through time and across the globe	3. Knowledge