## Program Assessment Plan

**Program:** BA  
**Department:** American Studies  
**College/School:** College of Arts and Sciences  
**Date:** 2020  
**Primary Assessment Contact:** Heidi Ardizzone

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**Note:** Each cell in the table below will expand as needed to accommodate your responses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Program Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Assessment Mapping</th>
<th>Assessment Methods</th>
<th>Use of Assessment Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1 | **Explain** the development and contexts of American cultures and ideas over time. | ASTD 1000 (required intro)  
Other | Qualifying Exam at the end of year one; question based on ASTD 5000.  
Portfolio Paper or Thesis at the end of year two | Exam is administered for first year students every May; assessed by faculty every four years (see below)  
Portfolio Papers assessed in written and oral defense as due (usually in the fourth semester) using attached form and rubric; assessed for specific LO below  
We have ongoing efforts to talk to or survey exiting students and track their careers. Assessment by faculty every 5-6 years. |

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*Note: These should be measurable, and manageable in number (typically 4-6 are sufficient).*

*Note: the majority should provide direct, rather than indirect, evidence of achievement.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>Comprehend</strong> the diversity of American cultures and experiences both within the nation-state and abroad.</th>
<th>ASTD 5910 Career Placement</th>
<th>Internship Paper Exit Interview/Survey and Career Tracking</th>
<th>Internship Papers are collected as they are completed and assessed by faculty every four years (see below) We have ongoing efforts to talk to or survey exiting students and track their careers. Assessment by faculty every 5-6 years.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Practice</strong> interdisciplinary research methods in the study of American cultures through critical interpretation of a wide variety of American cultural artifacts, such as material, visual, literary, and popular.</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Portfolio Paper and Oral Defense Exit Interview/Survey and Career Tracking</td>
<td>Portfolio Papers assessed in written and oral defense as due (usually in the fourth semester) using attached form and rubric; assessed for specific LO below. We have ongoing efforts to talk to or survey exiting students and track their careers. Assessment by faculty every 5-6 years.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Articulate</strong> arguments and information effectively in writing and presentations.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Synthesize</strong> American Studies knowledge with surrounding communities and public life, particularly in service of questions of social justice and solidarity.</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td><strong>Additional Questions</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>
1. On what schedule/cycle will faculty assess each of the above-noted program learning outcomes? *(It is *not recommended* to try to assess every outcome every year.)*

- **LO 2:** Every two years beginning AY 2019: (Alternate between focus on terminal MAs and MAs in the MA-to-PhD program)
- **LO 3:** Every four years beginning AY 2020: (Portfolio Papers and Defense,)
- **LO 1:** Every four years beginning AY 2022: (Qualifying Exam, Portfolio Papers and Defense,)

2. Describe how, and the extent to which, program faculty contributed to the development of this plan.

   This plan was discussed and developed in whole-faculty meetings in over several years.

3. On what schedule/cycle will faculty review and, if needed, modify this assessment plan?

   - Short term reviews following every assessment
   - Long term reviews and consideration of modifications every 4-5 years.

*IMPORTANT: Please remember to submit any assessment rubrics (as noted above) along with this report.*