General Education Annual Course Assessment Form

Course Number/Title: RTVF 111: Alternative Cinema
GE Area V: Culture, Civilization, & Global Understanding

Results reported for AY 2015-2016 (Sp 15-F16)  
# of sections: 10  
# of instructors: 3

Course Coordinator: Alison McKee, Ph.D.  
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Department Chair: David Kahn/Scott Sublett  
College: Humanities & Arts

Instructions: Each year, the department will prepare a brief (two page maximum) report that documents the assessment of the course during the year. This report will be electronically submitted, by the department chair, to the Office of Undergraduate Studies, with an electronic copy to the home college by October 1 of the following academic year.

Part 1

To be completed by the course coordinator:

(1) What SLO(s) were assessed for the course during the AY?

SLO 3: Students shall be able to explain how a culture outside the U.S. has changed in response to internal and external pressures.

(2) What were the results of the assessment of this course? What were the lessons learned from the assessment?

Three instructors taught ten sections of RTVF 111 during the period under review, with the majority of students in each section receiving satisfactory, good, or excellent grades in the course, indicating mastery of the material. While each instructor had his or her unique approach to the course, all focused on a mix of historical periods and cultures in cinema to conform to the SLO goals emphasizing culture, identity, and diversity in Area V. We assign both lecturers and tenure-line faculty to this course for a range of perspectives and experience while still maintaining course continuity. In addition to serving the university as a whole, RTVF 111 is a degree-completion course for the RTVF major.

Among required assignments that assessed SLO 3 in AY 2015-2016 in one section was a Key Term Definitions Exercise: students selected key terms from required scholarly essays and wrote about how they related to their units’ themes of crossing national borders. Additional assessments included film reflections: students alternated between responding online to the themes mentioned above (national borders, impact on cultures outside the U.S. in terms of cinematic influence) in films screened in class and also responding to their peers’ observations.

American students often struggle with alternative modes of filmmaking, and thus patience and understanding of their starting points with new or unfamiliar material is required.

(3) What modifications to the course, or its assessment activities or schedule, are planned for the upcoming year? (If no modifications are planned, the course coordinator should indicate this.)
No modifications are planned.

**Part 2**

To be completed by the department chair (with input from course coordinator as appropriate):

(4) Are all sections of the course still aligned with the area Goals, Student Learning Objectives (SLOs), Content, Support, and Assessment? If they are not, what actions are planned?

In the past, as single section taught by one tenure-line faculty member, was not fully in line with the criteria above. The course coordinator, who has supervised the class for 14 years, discussed the changes needed to bring that faculty member’s syllabus into compliance with Area V learning objectives and content, and that person has made those changes.