General Education Spring Course Assessment Form

Course Number/Title: COMM 21  
GE Area: D1

Results reported for: AY 2012-2013  
# of sections: 1  
# of instructors: 1

Course Coordinator: Dr. David Terry  
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Department Chair: Dr. Stephanie Coopman  
College: Social Sciences

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 September 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?

LO3: Students will be able to evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues

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

Fall 2012
Out of approximately _22____ students assessed, what percentage would you estimate:

63_ % (14) Mastered LO2 at a high level (averaged a “B+” or better on assessment activities)

95_ % (21) Mastered LO2 at an average level (averaged a “C” or better on assessment activities)

4_ % (1) Either failed to master LO2, or did so at a marginal level (“C-” or below on assessment activities)

(3) What were the lessons learned from the assessment?

For LO3, students were assigned a “Collage Performance” (Performance #3), in which they explore what it means to be an immigrant to the United States and adapting to American cultural and social values. Students were required to integrate a main textual source with several supporting sources that could help give deeper (and contested) meaning to the themes in the main source. Students combined social science information about immigrants in the U.S. and multiple points of view to create a 3-4 minute performance. Overall, students created higher quality performances for this assignment than the two previous performances. One reason for this was those who created their main text from an interview they conducted appeared to give them a
personal connection to their performance material.
From student reflections:
“I embraced this opportunity to be more creative with my performance because I had the chance to use pictures, poems, and songs as a way to enhance the performance, but also stay within the non-fiction context. It also allowed the class to see how social science information can in fact be evaluated in many different ways.”
“I learned that it was not all happy stories; there were stories of people deported, racism, misunderstandings and much more. I learned to see this issue in all different points and perspectives, and realized that there are much more sides to a story than I can possibly imagine.”

(4) 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.)

None at present.

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?

Yes, all sections of the course remain in alignment with Core GE Area D1 goals, SLOs, content, support, and assessment. This is achieved through regular in person assessment meetings and well as informal conversations between the course coordinator and the COMM 21 instructor.