

Evaluation Report for Program Review Face to Face Meeting University of Wisconsin-Whitewater: History & Social Studies (BA, BS, BSE) Majors and Minors, 2024-2025

Date: 3/31/2025

In Attendance: Interim Provost Robin Fox; Dean Jason Janke (L&S); Department Chair/ Program Coordinator Kimberly Nath; faculty and staff in the History & Social Studies program Karl Brown, Anthony Gulig, Molly Patterson, Jim Coons, Nengher Vang; Program Review Team Chair Cody Marie Busch; Program Review team members Onochie Fan-Osuala, Louis Fucilla; Assessment Representative Katy Casey

Overview of review team evaluation, program comments:

The review team noted a number of accomplishments on this department over the years. Some of what was shared included the commitment to incorporating students in community-based learning opportunities through a commitment to student service, which is well-aligned with university mission/strategic plan. In addition, there is a clear commitment to service by faculty members as noted in their willingness to step into leadership positions (e.g., Kim Nath as Faculty Senate President, Jim Coons as Chair of General Education Review Committee).

Discussion of Review Team's evaluation:

1 – The program provided information on student outcomes post-graduation in various places in the report. Can you provide a general overview of whether students are generally successful upon graduation and how you track their outcomes? Clarify your process for using post-graduation data when available.

The program used Facebook and email to collect information on and track graduates of their program. There is interest among faculty in the program to continue tracking students. The program noted the variety of post-graduation employment settings for History majors. There was discussion over some potential strategies, such as collecting contact information from students in a program-end course before they leave asking how best to reach them to stay in touch.

2 – How is assessment work managed in the department? Is the current assessment plan sustainable long-term?

The program is aware of the needs in program level assessment, specifically related to aligning findings with SLOs, analyzing the data and using the findings of that analysis to help inform program-level initiatives. They have a model in place, and are looking at a 6-year structure to assess student learning

outcomes. The short-term plan includes establishing a timeline to cyclically measure SLOs, so not focusing on all of them at once. There is also interest in attending the institute, if the date can be past deadlines for AP grading that the program faculty are all heavily engaged in.

Recommended Actions:

Recommended Action #1

Revise the assessment plan to clearly indicate the SLOs being assessed, in which years SLOs are reviewed and discussed by the program, student learning data collected that directly aligns to those SLOs, and how the program discusses that data and uses it for program improvement.

Recommended Action #2

Describe the progress toward creating the online degree.

Recommended Action #3

The credits to degree are consistently above 128 for some emphases. Do students encounter any challenges to completing their program in a manageable time frame?

Recommended Result:

Continuation with minor concerns

Next Self-study and/or Progress Report Due Dates:

1 - Next FULL self-study will be due to the Dean on May 1, 2031, and to the Assessment Office on August 1, 2031

For a copy of the full evaluation report and detailed comments, please reach out to the assessment office: assessment@uww.edu.