

Department/Program: Minority Studies	Chair/Director: Raoul Contreras	Assessment cycle/year:
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Mission/Purpose

The Department of Minority Studies provides an interdisciplinary undergraduate education of the minority experience, the position of minority people in the United States, the interrelationships among minority peoples, and the relationship of minority peoples to the dominant cultures and structures in society. The purpose of the Department is to provide knowledge of how these diverse minority experiences, positions in society and interrelationships with dominant cultures and structures form the basis for understanding the dimensions of multiculturalism. The worldview of people of color expressed as subjectivity versus being studied objects, frames a totality of the minority experience that is a unique feature of the department. ... The mission of the Department is essential to the campus, university, and community. ...

The Department of Minority Studies provides knowledge of the experiences of racial ethnic minorities in the United States from their perspectives that will enable students to pursue graduate study and professional careers, critically analyze and evaluate the wider world and how it affects their lives. ...

Student learning outcomes (Goals):

Ex. Program will produce well-prepared graduates. (Add more lines as needed.)

Goal 1. Development of critical thinking skills

Goal 2. Development of analytical thinking skills

Goal 3. Development of oral communication skills

Goal 4. Development of written communication skills

Goal 5. Development of academic research skills: the ability to read and understand primary and secondary sources, including archival documents, journal articles monographs and textbook

Goal 6. Practical engagement with minority worldviews and experience

Which Student learning outcomes (Goals) did you assess this year?

All specific educational goals

Assessment Summary

Outcomes/Objectives	Measure(s)	Findings	Action Plans
			<i>Provide tutorials and practice sessions for oral presentations once a month through the tutoring center.</i>
1. Students will demonstrate proficiency in oral and written communication skills	Graded assessment of class attendance and participation; periodic individual and group classroom presentation of work; graded assessment of weekly	See Analysis Questions	Greater emphasis on development of formal writing skills and practices. Greater use of academic support services (formal writing).

	course journal entries; Written (essay) mid-terms and final exams		
2. Students will demonstrate analytical and critical thinking skills	Graded assessment of class attendance and participation; periodic individual and group classroom presentation of work; graded assessment of weekly course journal entries; Written (essay) mid-terms and final exams		Greater emphasis on development of formal writing skills and practices. Greater use of academic support services (formal writing).
3. Students will display research skills through mid-terms and final exams (essays) and periodic classroom presentation	periodic individual and group classroom presentation of work; Written (essay) mid-terms and final exams		
4. Students will practically display their knowledge of minority worldviews and experience	Internships, Service Learning; Capstones, Minority Studies university-community cultural programming; Participatory Democracy Conference		Further Develop integration of students into Department's community programming events. Further develop Participatory Democracy Conference as a "capstone-like" educational experience for students at all levels. Expand opportunities for internships and service learning

Analysis Questions

Based on your findings and action plans, what primary changes will you make for student learning? Program outcomes? Changes to the assessment process?

Assessment of annual faculty reports and faculty meeting discussion indicates a general steady progress on specific educational goals, and notable individual achievements as manifested by student participation and leadership of research panel presentations; individual research and study projects; And group projects through BSU, ALMA, IUN Social Justice, Lectures in Race & Ethnicity, and Gary Revitalization/Historic Preservation.

Analysis of student evaluations and critical summaries of their roles in participatory democracy conference generates a highly positive assessment of student achievement in terms of specific educational goals.

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