General Education Outcomes

Students will demonstrate:

6.1 Knowledge of a broad outline of world history
6.2 The distinctive features of the history, institutions, economy, society, culture, etc., of one non-Western civilization.

Direct Measurement of Student Learning

The subcommittee intends to develop a set of embedded questions with exams for EST 200 composed of objective multiple choice questions in which students will be asked to demonstrate their understanding of non-western historical overview (6.1) and an written exercise to assess understanding for at least one non-western culture and its distinctive features in relation to the local natural environment and resources (6.2).

Reliability and Validity

The actual embedded questions will be derived from input from all instructors responsible for teaching Other World Civilizations, including full and part-time instructors. Exams are based upon the subject matter and problem solving skills developed in the subject area.

Class examinations, with embedded questions, will be conducted for all sections of these courses within the same week subject to the meeting times of each section and as specified by the department at the beginning of the semester in which assessment is conducted (a Pretest) during a Midterm (sometime between the 6th and 8th weeks of the semester), and in the final examinations given at the times scheduled during final exam week.

Individual section instructors will be provided with examination materials and administer the exams during the specified periods, and return completed exams and all other materials back to the PACE subcommittee. Completed exams will be pooled together and sent to the computer center for scoring and item analysis. Rubrics for evaluating the written exercise concerning one non-Western civilization (6.2) will be provided as well.

Sampling

All students taking the courses will be tested with imbedded questions. A 30 student sample for the exercise for criterion two (6.2) will be done every third year.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Student Learning Objective</strong></th>
<th><strong>Course</strong></th>
<th><strong>Assessment Measures</strong></th>
<th><strong>Standard</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of world history, focused on major culture types in interaction with their local environments, including long-term processes of change and the effects of contemporary globalization.</td>
<td>EST 200 Cultural Ecology</td>
<td>Students will be given a pretest and 2 objective examinations with embedded questions that demonstrate understanding of the major cultural types and their interaction with the natural environment.</td>
<td>RUBRIC: 1. Multiple choice questions that reflect course objectives, both as General knowledge and as applications to specific environmental problems. 2. Validity measures statistically generated by machine grading. Scores of 79% exceed standards. Scores of 70-79 meet them. Scores of 60-69 approach standards. Scores of less than 60 fail to meet.</td>
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<td>2. Students will demonstrate an elementary understanding of the interplay of culture and the natural environment in one non-western culture.</td>
<td>Each student will do library research and interview one international student from a non-western culture concerning cultural factors affecting environmental issues and prepare a written report which will be scanned after grading.</td>
<td>The RUBRIC for grading of written reports includes quality of information And analysis in the following areas: (1) Respect for differences in communication style &amp; values. (2) Awareness of gender, age, class, and ethnicity in the social structure. (3) Environmental history. (4) Summary of guidelines for environmental practitioners working in this Culture. <strong>Plus</strong> (5) quality of written communication in the final report. Scores of 79% (or grades of A and B) in four of the five categories specified in the rubric exceed standards. Scores of 70-79% (or grades of C) in four of the five categories specified meet standards. Scores of 60-99 (or grades of D) in three of the five categories approach standards. Scores of less than 60 (or grades of F) in less than three of the five categories fail to meet standards. (Scoring will be done by an external evaluator for a stratified sample of 30 students every 3 years).</td>
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