

**Department of History and Sociology  
Assessment Report, 2004-2005**

<b><u>Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose</u></b>	<b><u>Program Intended Educational Outcomes/Objectives</u></b>	<b><u>Means of Program Assessment and Criteria</u></b>
<p><u>Mission Statement</u></p> <p>It is the mission of the Department of History and Sociology to encourage a life-long passion for learning and a quest for knowledge by providing an environment that fosters academic excellence and unfettered inquiry. We encourage the development of ethics and values that recognize knowledge in all its diverse and creative forms. The Department of History and Sociology offers major and minor programs for the disciplines of History and Sociology and supports a Social Science Composite Degree for secondary teaching certification.</p> <p><u>Goals Statement</u></p> <p>Among its goals, the Department of History and Sociology will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide expert classroom instruction with opportunities for a variety of learning experiences, activities, research, and reporting.</li> <li>2. Prepare students for a more fulfilling life, for a variety of employment opportunities, and for graduate studies.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.a. History and Sociology courses will be taught by qualified faculty members with expertise (and preferably, terminal degrees) in their teaching fields.</li> <li>1.b. History and Sociology courses will support the department's mission and the mission of the respective disciplines.</li> <li>2.a. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the methodologies, concepts, and subject matter of the discipline of their major.</li> <li>2. b. Students will demonstrate ability to conduct original research in the discipline of their major by designing a research proposal, collecting data, analyzing the data and writing up the results of their research, data and analysis.</li> <li>2.c. Students will be satisfied with their preparation within their major, with their employment opportunities, and will be successful in attaining admission and performance in graduate and professional schools; employers will be satisfied with SUU graduate employees.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.a. The History and Sociology Department will hire, promote, and tenure qualified faculty members who excel in teaching.</li> <li>1.b. Faculty will work with the Department Curriculum Committee to ensure curricular coherence.</li> <li>2. a. Department majors and minors will pass all classes in their subject major and/or minor with a C- grade or better as assessed by the professors assigned to the respective classes.</li> <li>2.b. Graduating majors in the Social Science disciplines will complete at least one original piece of research using the acceptable style manual for the respective discipline. The minimum acceptable grade for this research is B-.</li> <li>2.c. Postgraduate surveys of students and employers will determine satisfaction with preparation in the major, with employment, employer satisfaction with discipline major employees, and success in admission to graduate school and levels of graduate</li> </ol>

<p>3. Provide opportunities for practical experience and experiential education within the respective disciplines.</p>	<p>3.a. History and Sociology students will have opportunities for internships, work studies, service learning, practicums, memberships in honorary societies, and other forms of practical experience.</p>	<p>school performance.</p> <p>2.d. When feasible, comprehensive pre- and post-assessment tests appropriate to the respective discipline will be administered to majors in each of the disciplines.</p> <p>3.a. History and Sociology faculty with expertise will oversee internship, practicum, work study, and service learning opportunities, and will sponsor and advise honorary societies and other club activities.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Summary of Data Collected</u></b></p> <p>1.a. 100% of departmental courses were taught by qualified faculty members in their areas of expertise. All full-time faculty (100%) have terminal degrees and teaching experience in their fields. Two adjunct history instructors taught this year, one with a Ph.D. and the other with an M.A. degree. One new tenure-track Sociologist was hired in January 2005 and earned a Ph.D. at one of the country's top programs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. A new tenure-track hire in Sociology with a Ph.D. from an English university was made with a starting date of July 1, 2005. In Fall 2004, 645 students completed course evaluations with an average response of 4.321 and a median response of 4.594 for Question 25 about "effective teaching." In Spring 2005, 664 students responded with an average score of 4.384 and a median score of 4.686 for Question 25. Average enrollments in History courses were considerably higher than the HSS average.</p> <p>1.b. The Department Curriculum Committee met in Fall 2004 to review, approve, or reject curricular requests from faculty. Sociology</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Use of Results</u></b></p> <p>1.a. Continue to hire and retain terminally-qualified faculty. Improve efforts to evaluate teaching with peer and self-evaluations.</p> <p>1.b. Continue to use the Department Curriculum Committee and improve their oversight and reporting functions. Encourage faculty to plan and develop curriculum in systematic and proactive manner in line with disciplines' and department's mission(s) and goals.</p> <p>2.a. Continue this process.</p> <p>2.b. Continue this process.</p> <p>2.c. Continue and improve this process. Develop and refine surveys of graduates and employers. Most important, the Department will need to compile data on graduating students as they prepare for careers and graduate school.</p>

made changes in Catalog information by submitting directly to the Provost's Office in February 2005.

2.a. Students receiving grades of C-or better demonstrated knowledge and understanding of their disciplines indicated by scores on their exams and assignments.

2.b. 100% of graduating majors completed original work in a capstone research-oriented course (e.g., History 4990 and Sociology 4990).

2.c. During this year, the Department did not track graduating seniors has been done previously.

2.d. For the first time in the department, nearly all (95%) of graduating seniors completed the ETS Major Field exam in their respective disciplines. This end-of-year test administration was funded by a \$25 course fee in History 4990 and Sociology 4990 that commenced in 2004-05. Seventeen sociology majors scored a mean of 149.6 on scale of 120-200 (about the 47<sup>th</sup> percentile). Sixteen history majors scored similarly. Faculty still need to evaluate and discuss these scores, particularly those for the respective sub-fields.

3.a. 100% of students in internships, practica, work study, and service-learning projects were supervised by faculty with expertise. Faculty advisors assisted honorary societies and club activities in the two disciplines of History and Sociology. Phi Alpha Theta (History) inducted nine new members in December 2004 and sponsored presentations by Professor Wayne Hinton and President Steve Bennion. Alpha Kappa Delta (Sociology) continued to sponsor numerous activities and placed a float in the SUU Homecoming Parade. Service-learning opportunities were available to students in Sociology 1020 (*Social Problems*) and in History 2700/2710 (*United States History To/Since 1877*).

3.a. Continue and improve this process, especially as it relates to annual reporting of activities.