

Minnesota State University Moorhead
2008-2009 Assessment Report Cover Sheet

(An electronic version of this form can be accessed at <http://www.mnstate.edu/assess>)

Note: All non-accredited programs are required to complete this form. Include Assessment Reporting Forms for each learning outcome assessed.

Academic Program: B.A. FILM STUDIES
FILM HISTORY & CRITICISM EMPHASIS
FILM PRODUCTION EMPHASIS

Department: FILM STUDIES

College: ARTS & HUMANITIES

Date: 10/01/2008

1. Name(s) of Department Assessment Coordinator and/or Assessment Committee Members

- Assessment Committee:
 - Tony Adah
 - Tom Brandau
 - Kyja Kristjansson-Nelson
 - Ray Rea

2. List of All Student Learning Outcomes. (List all outcomes, placing an asterisk (*) by the outcomes you are assessing this year.)

1. Students will utilize three phases (preproduction/production/postproduction) of production preparation in the creation of film and video projects.
2. Students will demonstrate knowledge of film history, production aesthetics and theory.
3. Students will demonstrate knowledge of basic filmmaking practices and techniques. These include: specialized language use, cinematography principles, lighting and sound elements, editing and directing concepts.
4. Students will examine, analyze, and articulate conclusions as to the historical/critical values inherent in film text materials.
5. *Students will integrate evaluation, theory and production/research skills in the creation of a capstone project for public presentation.

3. Describe how your program has addressed the comments from the Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Committee during the past two academic years? (If you have made changes to your plan, file a revised Assessment Plan Cover Sheet and Assessment Planning Form(s).)

No comments to address.

4. If you have received an Instructional Improvement Grant in the past two years, identify the outcomes on which the grant was based and provide a summary here of the results from your grant.

The Film Studies Department has not received an Instructional Improvement Grant in the past two years.

5. Signatures

Department Chair or Program Director

Dean or Director

Required Attachments:

1. Assessment Reporting Forms
2. Records of department meetings when Assessment Report was discussed and approved.

2008-2009 Assessment Reporting Form

(An electronic version of this form can be accessed at <http://www.mnstate.edu/assess>)

Instructions: Include this form for each student learning outcome assessed during the previous year. Include Assessment Report Cover Sheet.

Academic Program: B.A. FILM STUDIES

FILM HISTORY & CRITICISM EMPHASIS

FILM PRODUCTION EMPHASIS

1. Learning outcome assessed (please include the number of the outcome to correspond with the list on the cover sheet).

5. Students will integrate evaluation, theory and production/research skills in the creation of a capstone project for public presentation.

2. Describe assessment measure used for this learning outcome (attach instrument or rubric)

The senior thesis project is the assessment measure used for this learning outcome.

3. Expected/satisfactory student results (from assessment plan)

Students will achieve a final grade of C or better on the Senior Thesis Project.

4. Actual results from the past year (attach additional information, if necessary)

During 2008, 15 students were enrolled in senior seminar, instructed by Professor Tom Brandau. Grades for the senior thesis ("capstone") project break down as follows:

A = 7 students

B = 6 students

I = 2 students

5. Describe and explain available trend data for student performance on this outcome over the past several years. In other words, describe how the results of this measure have changed over the past several years.

During 2007, 19 students were enrolled in senior seminar, instructed by Professor Tom Brandau. Grades for the senior thesis ("capstone") project break down as follows:

A = 9 students

B = 8 students

C = 2 students

6. Proposed action in response to results. (Please note if improvements can be made with existing department resources. If improvements cannot be made with existing department resources, consider applying for an Instructional Improvement Grant.)

The Film Studies Department's proposed action relates to our entire assessment plan last filed in 2005. The Film Studies Department has undergone tremendous change in the last year, or arguably the last few years: we made several changes to our curriculum during fall/winter 2007 which are now in effect, we became our own department (once part of CSFT), we have experienced significant growth in student enrollment, and two new faculty members have joined Film Studies. All of these changes impact how we can achieve meaningful assessment of teaching and learning in Film Studies.

In our 2008-2009 Assessment Plan we are making minor adjustments to the language of our Student Learning Outcomes, and making major changes to the department's practice and approach to assessment. Our students are doing well and the plan filed in 2005 is a good one. However a good plan does nothing unless it is put into action. As a department we have not yet practiced a systematic method to properly measure our student learning outcomes. We have gathered data and feedback from graduating seniors through exit interviews and department evaluations, but both of these items need some adjustment in terms of how that data is gathered, reviewed and considered.

This semester we will hold our first ever Portfolio Review and we plan to develop a comprehensive exam as well. The details will be provided in our Assessment Plan, however it is important to mention here that Portfolio Review will function in tandem with the capstone senior thesis projects. Thus Learning Outcome number 5 will be measured not only through the end product and by one professor, but also will be measured twice during the creative/research process by the portfolio review committee, comprised of several professors. These improvements will be made using department resources.