

American Multicultural Studies SLOAC Review Comments

Thanks for filing an assessment plan with the SLOAC. We have the following comments for you to consider:

- Need to clarify which SLOs are being assessed during the report cycle.
- Some outcomes could be phrased a bit differently to make them easier to assess. For instance, the word “examine” doesn’t indicate what students will gain by examining something. Others aren’t that unclear, but could be sharpened a bit. Keep this in mind as you gather your data.
- Unclear how the methods of assessment relate to the rubrics provided. For the first outcome, how will you use the rubric attached? Who will use it? What will they look at as they use it? The other rubrics have a similar problem.
- Use of grades is not a valid assessment measure. It is more useful to be able to have a specific rubric used on an a specific assignment. Otherwise, you can’t tell with any degree of precision the strengths or weaknesses of your students. A student could get a C in a class, but master the material. Another student could get a C in a class without as much mastery.
- Unclear what the term “adequate” means so inter-rater reliability is lacking. Your rubrics are a good start, but could be even more specific.

We don’t need anything more from you this year. Just be sure to start gathering data. Your first report will be due October 31, 2007.

If you have questions at any time, please contact Tim Borchers at borchers@mnstate.edu.

Thanks!