COURSE ASSESSMENT REPORT

I. Background Information

1. Course assessed:
   Course Discipline Code and Number: HST 215
   Course Title: History of United States Foreign Policy
   Division/Department Codes: H/SS

2. Semester assessment was conducted (check one):
   - ☐ Fall 2006
   - X Winter 2008
   - ☐ Spring/Summer 20__

3. Assessment tool(s) used: check all that apply.
   - ☐ Portfolio
   - ☐ Standardized test
   - ☐ Other external certification/licensure exam (specify):
   - ☐ Survey
   - ☐ Prompt
   - X Departmental exam
   - ☐ Capstone experience (specify):
   - ☐ Other (specify):

4. Have these tools been used before?
   - ☐ Yes
   - X No

   If yes, have the tools been altered since its last administration? If so, briefly describe changes made.

5. Indicate the number of students assessed/total number of students enrolled in the course.

18 students were assessed.

6. Describe how students were selected for the assessment.

Only one section of History 215 was taught in the Winter of 2008. All students in the section at the end of the semester participated in the assessment.

II. Results

1. Briefly describe the changes that were implemented in the course as a result of the previous assessment.

There was no previous assessment.

2. State each outcome (verbatim) from the master syllabus for the course that was assessed.

All. The essay question posed evaluated all of the outcomes.

3. Briefly describe assessment results based on data collected during the course assessment, demonstrating the extent to which students are achieving each of the learning outcomes listed above. ***Please attach a summary of the data collected.***

A total of eighteen students were assessed in the course. Dr. Ian Rush blind scored the essays. Sixteen students (88.9%) achieved a "C" or better grade as defined by the scoring rubric below. This exceeds the 70% required for a successful assessment.

4. For each outcome assessed, indicate the standard of success used, and the percentage of students who achieved that level of success. ***Please attach the rubric/scoring guide used for the assessment.***

Students whose answers achieve a "C" or better on the assessment will be considered as having successfully completed the assessment. A "C" grade is defined as follows: The answer is mostly narrative rather than analytical, it addresses in a basic manner the important events and issues in American foreign policy, and it is moderately well written. The assessment will show the course to have achieved its outcomes if 70% of the students in the section evaluated complete the assessment successfully.

5. Describe the areas of strength and weakness in students' achievement of the learning outcomes shown in assessment results.

   Strengths: Excellent understanding of roles played by economics, national security, and American exceptionalism in the formulation of US foreign policy.

   Weaknesses: Lack of a chronological sense of historical events; minor errors in names/places/events (e.g., Zingerman Telegram rather than Zimmerman Telegram).

III. Changes influenced by assessment results

1. If weaknesses were found (see above) or students did not meet expectations, describe the action that will be taken to address these weaknesses.

   None will be taken. This course asks students to think and write analytically about historical events. Minor errors such as those above do not merit changes in the course as I do not want to turn the course and its evaluations into a form of Trivial Pursuit.

2. Identify intended changes that will be instituted based on results of this assessment activity (check all that apply). Please describe changes and give rationale for change.
   a. ☐ Outcomes/Assessments on the Master Syllabus
      Change/rationale:

   b. ☐ Objectives/Evaluation on the Master Syllabus
      Change/rationale:

   c. ☐ Course pre-requisites on the Master Syllabus
      Change/rationale:

   d. ☐ 1st Day Handouts
      Change/rationale:

   e. ☐ Course assignments
      Change/rationale:

   f. ☐ Course materials (check all that apply)
      ☐ Textbook
      ☐ Handouts

   g. ☐ Instructional methods
      Change/rationale:

   h. ☐ Individual lessons & activities
      Change/rationale:

3. What is the timeline for implementing these actions? Starts Fall 2007

IV. Future plans

1. Describe the extent to which the assessment tools used were effective in measuring student achievement of learning outcomes for this course.
2. If the assessment tools were not effective, describe the changes that will be made for future assessments.

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3. Which outcomes from the master syllabus have been addressed in this report?

   All __X__ Selected _____

   If "All", provide the report date for the next full review: _____Winter 2011_____

   If "Selected", provide the report date for remaining outcomes: _____.

Submitted by:

Name: _____ Date: 5/19/08
Print/Signature

Department Chair: _____ Date: 5/19/08
Print/Signature

For Randy Hatch

Dean: _____ Date: MAY 20 2008
Print/Signature

logged 5/21/08 sf

Please return completed form to the Office of Curriculum & Assessment, SC 247.

Approved by the Assessment Committee 10/10/06