College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Learning Outcome Statements

(Based on 2004-2005 Institutional Effectiveness Reports)
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Revised August 17, 2006
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
LEARNING OUTCOMES

Anthropology
Program: Anthropology – Bachelor of Arts
• Students will learn the substance of Anthropology so that they may function successfully in a multicultural world. This includes understanding major principles of Anthropology and the different perspectives of sociocultural anthropology, biological anthropology, and anthropological archaeology and how they assist in understanding humans and human behavior.
• Students will learn the materials and skills necessary for entry into Master’s or Doctorate programs.
• To meet the needs of students with sufficient and varied course offerings and a program of study, especially for the major, that prepares individuals for living in a multicultural world. This includes critical thinking and problem solving about how culture influences people and leads to poor intercultural communication across many world situations today.

Program: Anthropology – Master of Arts
• Students will master substantive knowledge about Anthropology, so that they will able to successfully pass the Master’s comprehensive exams on the first try.
• Students will master methodological skills necessary to successfully implement social science research with anthropological perspective to prepare a successful proposal for thesis research.
• To prepare students interested in further education in Anthropology to undertake work at the doctorate level, so that a majority applying to doctoral programs will be accepted.
• To prepare students to apply anthropological techniques and insights into employment, such that majority of Master’s graduates will be employed where their skills are used.

Art
Program: Art – Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Fine Arts
• Undergraduate studio students will be able to create original artwork and designs with competence and skill, that is conceptually consistent.
• Undergraduate studio students will demonstrate an elevated proficiency in the academic courses in their major.
• Undergraduate art history students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the field, producing research and analysis of both the visual art and the historical and societal context in which it was produced.

Program: Art – Master of Fine Arts
• Graduate students will be able to create original artwork and design with rigorous critique and theoretical re-assessment, expressing their meaning within the context of art history and contemporary practice.
• Graduate students will be able to write about their own work and creative process within the discourse of contemporary practices.
Communication

Program: Communication – Bachelor of Arts
- Students will be able to demonstrate technological and professional preparation in an authentic work environment.
- Students will exhibit confidence in their professional preparation.
- Students will demonstrate literacy in media of communication.

Program: Communication – Master of Arts
- Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of theory in Public Relations, Mass Communication, and Speech Communication.
- Students will be able to apply theories either through scholarly analysis and critique of communication artifacts, texts, processes and interactions, or through assessment, evaluation and ethical analysis of communication in context
- Students will be prepared to participate in and present at professional conferences.

Communication Sciences and Disorders

Program: Communication Sciences and Disorders – Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts
- Students will describe normal developmental and anatomical process underlying typical communication behaviors.
- Students will compare and contrast the symptoms of communication disorders in children and adults
- Students will apply basic assessment and intervention procedures suitable at a pre-professional training level.
- Students will be able to write effectively in both clinical and academic settings.

Program: Communication Sciences and Disorders – Master of Arts
- Students will describe communication disorders, including symptomatology, assessment and intervention.
- Students will be prepared for clinically competence when they graduate.
- Students will be employed after they graduate.

Economics

Program: Economics - Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts
- Students will be able to use economic terminology appropriately and correctly.
- Students will be able to collect, analyze and present quantitative data and to draw inferences from statistical measures.
- Students will be able to organize and present material in a systematic framework.

Program: Economics – Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy
- Students will be able to independently formulate and solve models of optimizing economic agents and calculate or compute equilibrium outcomes
- Students will be able to perform advanced statistical analysis of data and be able to understand when statistical relation can be given a causal interpretation
- Students will be able to independently write publishable articles in their field of specialization

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English
Program: English - Bachelor of Arts
• Students will be able to demonstrate critical thinking skills in their writing.
• Students will be able to demonstrate their contextualized understanding of specific texts.
• Students will be able to implement appropriate methodologies for research and/or interpretation.
• Students will recognize the value of their English studies for their future pursuits.

Program: Applied English Linguistics - Master of Arts
• Students will be able to apply linguistic theory to the analysis of real world issues.
• Students will be able to plan and implement a course of instruction for language learners.
• Students will be able to meet field expectations for professionalism and job preparedness.

Program: Creative Writing - Master of Fine Arts
• Students will be able to produce independently a major creative work.
• Students will have the professional skills to teach at 2-year or 4-year colleges or universities, or find work (usually in writing-related) field of their choice
• Students will have grounding in various fields of literature
• Students will have the intellectual skills to succeed in PhD program

Program: Literature - Master of Arts
• Students will be able to conduct an independent literary research project
• Students will have the professional skills required by employers
• Students will be able to think critically about a range of literary genres and to express their ideas in writing
• Students will have the intellectual skills to succeed in PhD program

Program: Literature and Literature/Creative Writing – Doctor of Philosophy
• Students will be able to conduct an independent research project.
• Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of particular periods and/or genres
• Students will have the professional skills to teach at 4-year colleges or universities

History
Program: History - Bachelor of Arts
• All students graduating with a BA in History should attain and be able to demonstrate knowledge about the historical development of the U.S.
• All students graduating with a BA in History should attain and be able to demonstrate knowledge about the historical development of non-U.S. areas of the world.
• All students graduating with a BA in History should have excellent reading, critical thinking, and writing skills in relation to historical knowledge, issues, and the analysis of primary and secondary sources. The 4000-level capstone course will reinforce the use of skills and methodologies employed by professional historians.
• All students graduating with a BA in History who intend to teach at the secondary level in public schools should have the knowledge required to teach the histories of Texas, the U.S., and other major areas of the world (Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and/or Middle East).
Program: History - Master of Arts
- Students will demonstrate extensive knowledge about the history and historiography of at least two regions of the world (U.S. and/or non-U.S.).
- All students graduating with an MA in History should have excellent higher-level reading, critical thinking, and oral and written communication skills
- All students graduating with an MA in History should have the ability to identify and analyze field-appropriate primary and secondary sources for research and writing.

Program: Public History - Master of Arts
- Students will demonstrate knowledge about the area of the world in which they major.
- All students graduating with an MA in Public History will demonstrate mastery of a variety of historical skills and knowledge of methodologies relevant to community needs different from those of public, private, or higher education.
- The Public History MA program will produce students who are professionally prepared for positions in archives, museums, or related public or private institutions.

Program: History – Doctor of Philosophy
- Students will have extensive knowledge about the history and historiographical debates relating to at least two regions of the world.
- All students graduating with a Ph.D. in History should be able to identify and analyze sufficient field-appropriate primary and secondary sources to write an acceptable dissertation.
- The History Department will produce Ph.D.s who will be accomplished teachers, researchers, and publishers at junior and senior level colleges and universities.

Modern and Classical Languages
Program: Classical Studies - Bachelor of Arts
- Students will achieve reading proficiency in either Latin or ancient Greek (some will obtain this in both).
- Students will learn to analyze literary texts from antiquity and respond critically to them
- Students will understand the significance of ancient culture in the formation of modern culture and the dynamics of tradition.

Program: French - Bachelor of Arts
- Students will be able to converse with ease and confidence when dealing with most routine tasks and social situations that require an exchange of basic information related to work, school, recreation, particular interests and areas of competence
- Students will be able to demonstrate analytical and critical skills when writing in French
- Students will demonstrate professional readiness for language-related fields of study and work.

Program: German/German Area Studies - Bachelor of Arts
- Students will be able to converse with ease and confidence when dealing with most routine tasks and social situations that require an exchange of basic information related to work, school, recreation, particular interests and areas of competence
- Students will be able to demonstrate analytical and critical skills when writing in German
- Students will demonstrate professional readiness for language-related fields of study and work

Revised August 17, 2006
Program: Italian Studies - Bachelor of Arts

- Students will be able to converse with ease and confidence when dealing with most routine tasks and social situations that require an exchange of basic information related to work, school, recreation, particular interests and areas of competence.
- Students will demonstrate professional readiness for language-related fields of study and work.

Program: Spanish - Bachelor of Arts

- Students will be able to converse with ease and confidence when dealing with most routine tasks and social situations that require an exchange of basic information related to work, school, recreation, particular interests and areas of competence.
- Students will demonstrate analytical and critical skills when writing in Spanish.
- Students will demonstrate professional readiness for language-related fields of study and work.

Program: Spanish Literature and Linguistics - Master of Arts

- Students will be able to narrate and describe in major time frames and deal effectively with an anticipated complication in most informal and formal settings on topics of personal and general interest.
- Students will demonstrate critical and analytical ability in a breadth of topics related to literature, language, and culture.
- Students will be able to meet field expectations for professionalism and job preparedness.
- Students will develop suitable training as Spanish teachers.

Program: Hispanic Literature and Linguistics – Doctor of Philosophy

- Students will be able to conduct independent research in their field and transform this research into a publication type study.
- Students will demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of their field of expertise.
- Students will have the professional skills to teach at 4-year colleges or universities.
- Students will develop suitable training as a Spanish teacher in the field of literature or linguistics.

Music

Program: Music - Bachelor of Arts

- Students will be acquainted with diverse repertoire.
- Students will be able to write clearly and effectively on a musical subject involving one or more of the following modes of thought: quantitative or analytical; historical or cultural; aesthetics or criticism; philosophy or ethics; interdisciplinary.
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in music theory and aural skills.
Program: Composition - Bachelor of Music
- Students will become acquainted with diverse repertoire
- Composition majors will be capable of composing chamber music that is appropriate for public presentations
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in music theory and aural skills

Program: Elective Studies in Music Business / Elective Studies in Religion - Bachelor of Music
- Students will become acquainted with diverse repertoire
- Student will be capable of a significant public presentation
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in music theory and aural skills

Program: Piano Performance / Vocal Performance / Instrumental Performance / Organ Performance - Bachelor of Music
- Students will acquire technical and musical skills necessary to perform effectively on their primary instrument through individual instruction
- Students will become acquainted with diverse repertoire
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in music theory and aural skills

Program: Elective Studies in Teacher Certification - Bachelor of Music
- Students completing a Bachelor of Music degree with Teacher Certification will demonstrate competency in teaching skills
- Students completing a Bachelor of Music degree with Teacher Certification will demonstrate competency in musical skills
- Students completing a Bachelor of Music degree with Teacher Certification will demonstrate competency in music teaching.

Program: Theory - Bachelor of Music
- Students will become acquainted with diverse repertoire
- Theory majors will acquire tools necessary for analysis
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in music theory and aural skills

Program: Applied Music / Performance Pedagogy / Accompanying and Chamber Music - Master of Music
- Students will acquire research skills necessary for scholarly work
- Students will be able to perform at a standard of accuracy and musicality acceptable for public performance
- Students will acquire research skills necessary for scholarly work
- Students will demonstrate broad knowledge of music history and theory

Program: Music Education - Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts
- Students will demonstrate competency in research skills.
- Students will demonstrate competency in applying psychological theories to music teaching.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of current trends and major theories of music education.
Program: Literature / Theory - Master of Music
- Students will acquire research skills necessary for scholarly work
- Students will demonstrate advanced competence in research/analysis and writing
- Students will demonstrate broad knowledge of music history and theory
- Students will demonstrate reading ability in a foreign language, preferably German or French.

Program: Performance / Conducting - Doctor of Musical Arts
- Students will be able to perform at a standard of musical accuracy and musicality acceptable for public performance
- Students will acquire research skills necessary for scholarly work
- Students will demonstrate broad knowledge of music history and theory
- Students will demonstrate advanced competence in research and writing

Program: Composition - Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts
- Students will be acquainted with diverse repertoire
- Composition majors will be capable of composing chamber music that is appropriate for public presentations
- Students will demonstrate broad knowledge of music history and theory

Philosophy
Program: Philosophy – Bachelor of Arts
- Students should be well prepared for graduate and professional schools.
- Students should learn general analytic and writing skills
- Students should have a general knowledge of at least one major period in the history of philosophy; of basic techniques and concepts in logic; and of standard ethical theories

Program: Philosophy – Master of Arts
- Students should be prepared for further professional study, and especially for Ph.D. programs in Philosophy
- Students should develop a level of analytical ability and philosophical maturity significantly beyond that of undergraduate majors
- Students should continue to develop a breadth of philosophical knowledge in addition to the greater depth evidenced by good performance on a thesis, or other substantial body of work

Political Science
Program: Political Science – Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science
- Student will master basic concepts, theories and methods of studying political institutions and political behavior. Will also have knowledge of contemporary political issues.
- Students will be able to locate relevant sources to buttress their arguments, they will be able to properly cite sources, and they will be able to analyze and present quantitative data when called for.
- Students will write clear and original papers that are directed to the appropriate audience.
Program: Political Science – Master of Arts; Master of Public Administration; and Doctor of Philosophy
- Socialization into the discipline
- Creating a foundation for professional success
- Entry into the profession

Psychology
Program: Psychology – Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science
- Undergraduate students will have secured employment or graduate or professional school admission by the time of graduation
- Undergraduate students will demonstrate a competency of knowledge in the major areas of Psychology

Program: Psychology – Doctor of Philosophy
- Graduate students will successfully complete their comprehensive exams, demonstrating mastery of their program area
- To employ graduate students in the area of their specialty
- To have clinical graduate students become licensed psychologists

Sociology
Program: Sociology – Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science
- Students will be able to utilize sociological theories and concepts to think critically about their social world
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of sociological research methods to think and write critically about the production of knowledge in our social world
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of statistics as a method of data analysis in sociological research in our social world
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of sociological theories and research methods in applied settings
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of sociological theories and research methods by critically thinking and writing about contemporary social issues
Program: Sociology – Master of Arts

- Graduate students will be able to apply sociological theory to research issues and to conceptualize research problems in terms of theories and models utilizing hypotheses and research questions
- Graduate students will be able either to operationalize and measure the variables in their quantitative projects, or to generate observational strategies in their qualitative projects
- Graduate students will be able to interpret their research findings in terms of quantitative or qualitative assessments and, working from their data, draw conclusions about their results and its implications for the theory, model, or hypotheses the students developed. In the case of internship students, the students will also be able to identify and discuss the policy implications of their research and issues of the application of their findings to the setting or settings in which the research was conducted.
- Where it is appropriate (as in the case of an internship or other applied project), students will be able to communicate their research findings not only to their academic peers and their faculty, but to interested individuals who are not academic sociologists
- Graduate students who successfully complete a thesis or internship product in the department will be able to secure employment in settings in which they will be able to use skills taught to them in the graduate program

Theatre

Program: Theatre / Dance - Bachelor of Arts

- Undergraduate Theatre majors with a concentration in directing will demonstrate professional expertise.
- Undergraduate Theatre majors with a concentration in acting will demonstrate professional expertise
- Undergraduate Theatre majors with a concentration in design will demonstrate professional expertise
- Undergraduate Dance majors will demonstrate professional expertise in performance
- Undergraduate Theatre majors will be able to articulate the value of their degree in theatre

Program: Theatre - Master of Arts and Master of Fine Arts

- Graduate students with a concentration in directing will demonstrate professional expertise
- Graduate students with a concentration in acting will demonstrate professional expertise
- Graduate students with a concentration in design will demonstrate professional expertise
- MA and MFA graduates will be able to articulate the value of their degree in Theatre