

**Texas A&M International University
Annual Institutional Effectiveness Review (AIER)
for Academic Programs**

Program: BS in Social Studies with Grades 8th-12th Certification

Date Submitted: January 26, 2009

Assessment Period Covered: March 1, 2008 to January 31, 2009

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List Other Program Faculty:

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The Annual Institutional Effectiveness Review for Academic Programs is directed at Goal 1: Academics of the Texas A&M International University 2006-2010 Strategic Plan:

Develop, maintain, assess, and improve academic programs, administrative/educational support services and student services, to admit, retain, and graduate students who achieve established learning outcomes designed to prepare them for success in their chosen careers.

Institutional Mission

Texas A&M International University, a Member of The Texas A&M University System, prepares students for leadership roles in their chosen profession in an increasingly complex, culturally diverse state, national, and global society ... Through instruction, faculty and student research, and public service, Texas A&M International University embodies a strategic point of delivery for well-defined programs and services that improve the quality of life for citizens of the border region, the State of Texas, and national and international communities.

Academic Program Mission

The Bachelor in Science in Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Studies program is intended to prepare students to enter the education system with an academic background in Social Studies. Furthermore, it should produce certified educators who possess the knowledge and necessary skills to promote student learning, implement effective, responsive instruction and carry out accurate educational assessment.

Provide summary of the last cycle's use of results and changes implemented

This program remains in a state of transition. Those involved with the program continue to deal with the following issues: Improvement in the pass rate on the TeXes exams and the most effective use of the Social Studies classes (SOST 4391 and SOST 4392).

Selected list of program-level intended student learning outcomes

1. Support a student-centered learning environment supported by excellent teaching. (1.2)
The student will interpret and apply knowledge of significant historical events and developments in world civilizations, factors influencing world civilizations, and major characteristics of world civilizations from ancient times to the present.
2. Establish and pursue student learning outcomes appropriate for each program with systematic assessment and use of results for continuous quality improvement. (1.7)
The student will interpret and apply knowledge of physical, cultural and environmental geography.
3. Prepare students for success in their chosen careers. (1.4)
Students completing this program will be prepared to pursue careers as teachers.

Section I: Planning and Implementation

Outcome(s):

Outcome 1

The student will interpret and apply knowledge of significant historical events and developments in world civilizations, factors influencing world civilizations, and major characteristics of world civilizations from ancient times to the present.

Please indicate if the outcome(s) is (are) related to writing (QEP).

Methods of assessment to be used:

The students will take Domain I: World History of the 132 TeXes Field Exam.

Indicate when assessment(s) will take place:

Annual

Criteria/Benchmark(s):

The benchmark is a minimum score of 240 on Domain I: World History on the 132 TeXes Field Exam.

Outcome 2

The student will interpret and apply knowledge of physical, cultural and environmental geography.

Please indicate if the outcome(s) is (are) related to writing (QEP).

Methods of assessment to be used:

Students will take Domain III: Geography, Culture, and the Behavioral and Social Sciences of the 132 TeXes Field Exam.

Indicate when assessment(s) will take place:

Annual

Criteria/Benchmark(s):

The benchmark is a minimum score of 240 on Domain III: Geography, Culture, and the Behavioral and Social Sciences of the 132 TeXes Field Exam.

Outcome 3

Students completing this program will be prepared to pursue careers as teachers.

Please indicate if the outcome(s) is (are) related to writing (QEP).

Methods of assessment to be used:

Taking the 132 TeXes Field Exam.

Indicate when assessment(s) will take place:

Annual

Criteria/Benchmark(s):

A passing score of 240 out of 300 on the 132 Texas Field Exam.

Section II: Analysis of Results

What were the results attained?

Outcome 1

A total of seven social studies majors took domain #1. Forty-three percent of the students passed and fifty-seven percent failed the domain.

Outcome 2

Seven social studies major took domain #3. Twenty-nine percent passed and seventy-one percent failed the domain.

Outcome 3

Seven social studies major took the exam. Fourteen percent met the benchmark and eight-six percent failed.

What were the conclusions reached?

This program has not been very successful and the department has recommended that the program be discontinued. DSS faculty designed a Social Studies minor which they believe will be more effective in preparing students for the TeXes 132 when combined with ACP.

Describe the action plan formulated. (The plan may be multi-year in nature.)

The department has recommended that the program be discontinued.

Section III: Resources

Resource(s) to implement action plan:

Describe the resources that will be needed to implement the action plan. Also indicate if the resources are currently available, or if additional funds will be needed to obtain these resources.

Funding

- New Resources Required
- Reallocation of current funds

Physical

- New or reallocated space

Other

- Primarily faculty/staff time
- University/rule procedure change only

Provide a narrative description and justification for requested resources (include linkage to Strategic Plan)

N/A

Identify proposed outcomes for the next assessment cycle:

Continuation of present outcome(s) – (Indicate reason for continuation):
No reason to change as of now.

New Outcome(s) – (List outcomes below):

Modification of present outcome(s) – (Indicate reason for modification):