

2019-20 Student Learning Assessment Report, Academic

Program: American Studies	Degree: Major	Department Head: Karen Mahar	Submitted By: Karen Mahar	Date Submitted: 07/29/2020
Mission: The American Studies Program at Siena College provides an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the American Experience.				
1. Major/Program Student Learning Outcomes Students will be able to...		2. Phase		
1. Apply methods from at least two discrete disciplines to effectively organize, research, analyze, and communicate an answer to an original question concerning American history, society, or culture.		Discussing		
3. Assessment Procedures (Planning/ determining) Method: (ex. tests, presentations, research paper) Final American Studies Capstone grade.				
Using a Sample of Students? Yes				
If yes, describe your sample. Using only majors who have completed AMST451				
When does assessment occur? At the end of the semester in which the student enrolled in AMST451				
How often does assessment occur? Whenever a student completes AMST451, typically once a year.				
Criteria (How do you know students are achieving learning outcome?) 70% of students should earn a grade of B or higher on their American Studies capstone to demonstrate mastery of the major. According to the rubric employed, a grade of B means that they created and supported a clear thesis, using logical organization, ample supporting evidence, reasonably hard thinking, plus good arguments, evidence, examples, and details. Their thesis contained only minor flaws in organization and coherence, and only minor grammar, punctuation, spelling, or formatting mistakes. It showed evidence of good research and sources, used the scholarly work of others to support its thesis, and documented its sources correctly.				
4. Assessment Results (Collecting/ analyzing) 2018 100% of students enrolled in AMST451: American Studies Capstone achieved a grade of B or better (1 of 1 qualified major earned a grade of B or better). 2109 100% of students enrolled in AMST 451: American Studies Capstone achieved a grade of B or better (3 of 3 qualified majors earned a grade of B or better).				

2020

100% of students enrolled in AMST 451: American Studies Capstone achieved a grade of B or better (3 of 3 qualified majors earned a grade of A)

Supporting Document(s):

[Supporting Doc American Studies Major Outcome 1 - American Studies Majors Assessment Excel 2020.xlsx](#)

Learning Outcome Met?

(Based on Criteria)

Yes

5. Use of Results

(Discussing/ using results)

AMST is changing its mission and learning goals, and changing assessment criteria for 2021 to focus on specific rubric criteria or targeted exam outputs rather than whole course grades.

1. Major/Program Student Learning Outcomes Students will be able to...	2. Phase
2. Demonstrate advanced knowledge in an area of American history.	Collecting

3. Assessment Procedures (Planning/ determining)

Method: (ex. tests, presentations, research paper)

Final grade in an American Studies Area A course (American history above the 100 level)

Using a Sample of Students?

Yes

If yes, describe your sample.

Majors who have completed at least one course from American Studies A course.

When does assessment occur?

At the end of the semester in which they took the course.

How often does assessment occur?

When they take an American Studies A course, which can be in any semester after completing their CDH requirement.

Criteria (How do you know students are achieving learning outcome?)

70% of majors should earn a grade of B or better in an American history course above the 100 level to successfully demonstrate mastery in one area of advanced American history (e.g., HIST266 New York State History).

4. Assessment Results

(Collecting/ analyzing)

2018

33% (2 of 6 qualified majors earned a grade of B or better)

2019

66.67% (4 of 6 qualified majors earned a grade of B or better.) Improved but still 3% below desired outcome.

2020

87.5 (7 of 8 qualified majors) earned a grade of B or better

Supporting Document(s):

[Supporting Doc American Studies Major Outcome 2 - American Studies Majors Assessment Excel 2020.xlsx](#)

Learning Outcome Met?

(Based on Criteria)

Yes

1. Major/Program Student Learning Outcomes Students will be able to...	2. Phase
3. Demonstrate an understanding of content and methodology from an American social science.	Collecting

3. Assessment Procedures (Planning/ determining)

Method: (ex. tests, presentations, research paper)

Final grade in an American Studies Area B course (Political Science, Sociology, etc.)

Using a Sample of Students?

Yes

If yes, describe your sample.

Majors who have completed at least one course from American Studies Area B.

When does assessment occur?

At the end of the semester in which they took the course.

How often does assessment occur?

When they complete an American Studies Area B course.

Criteria (How do you know students are achieving learning outcome?)

70% of majors should earn a grade of B or better in a course from American Studies Area B to demonstrate mastery in the content and methodology of an American social science.

4. Assessment Results

(Collecting/ analyzing)

2018

100% (5 of 5 qualified majors earned a grade of B or better)

2019

100% (2 of 2 qualified majors earned a grade of B or better)

2020

80% (8 of 10 qualified majors earned a grade of B or better)

Supporting Document(s):

[Supporting Doc American Studies Major Outcome 3 - American Studies Majors Assessment Excel 2020.xlsx](#)

Learning Outcome Met?

(Based on Criteria)

Yes

1. Major/Program Student Learning Outcomes Students will be able to...	2. Phase
4. demonstrate understanding a variety of texts in American culture.	Collecting

3. Assessment Procedures (Planning/ determining)**Method: (ex. tests, presentations, research paper)**

Final grade in an American Studies Area C course (literature, theater, education, art history)

Using a Sample of Students?

Yes

If yes, describe your sample.

Majors who have completed at least one course from American Studies Area C

When does assessment occur?

At the end of the semester in which they took the course.

How often does assessment occur?

When they complete an American Studies Area c course.

Criteria (How do you know students are achieving learning outcome?)

70% of majors should earn a grade of B or better in a course from American Studies Area C to demonstrate mastery in understanding and analyzing a variety of texts in American culture.

4. Assessment Results

(Collecting/ analyzing)

2018

50% (1 of 2 qualified students earned a grade of B or better)

2019

100% (3 out of 3 qualified students earned a grade of B or better)

2020

100% (5 out of 5 qualified students earned a grade of B or better)

Supporting Document(s):

[Supporting Doc American Studies Major Outcome 4 - American Studies Majors Assessment Excel 2020.xlsx](#)

Learning Outcome Met?

(Based on Criteria)

Yes