Department of Social & Behavioral Sciences

PLAN FOR ASSESSMENT OF GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OBJECTIVES

AMERICAN HISTORY

DESIGNATED COURSES: 23103, U.S. History to 1865
23104, U.S. History since 1865
24101, U.S. Government - National*

LEARNING OUTCOMES: The student will demonstrate: knowledge of a basic narrative of American history: political, economic, social, and cultural, including knowledge of unity and diversity in American society; knowledge of common institutions in American society and how they have affected different groups; and understanding of America's evolving relationship with the rest of the world.

ASSESSMENT MEASURES: Beginning in the 2002-3 academic year, in each of the designated courses multiple-choice and short-answer questions will be embedded in exams and quizzes. Each section of each course will utilize the same questions. The questions, written by a departmental committee, will assess knowledge of the basic narrative of American history (political, economic social, and cultural, including knowledge of unity and diversity in American society), knowledge of common institutions in American society and how they have affected different groups, and understanding of America's evolving relationship with the rest of the world, and will be separated from the exams and quizzes for the purpose of assessment. The questions will deal with such topics as Native Americans, the American Revolution, slavery, the Constitution, immigration, market economy and industrialization, the Monroe Doctrine, expansion, the Civil War, Reconstruction, women's suffrage, World War I, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War, civil rights, and Vietnam. At the end of the spring semester, a randomly selected sample of no less than 20% of the student performances will be evaluated by the department, and the results reported to the General Education Committee and the Vice President of Academic Affairs. The department will use the assessment to evaluate courses and procedures, and will consider other assessment tools.

STANDARDS: The criteria for determining student performance in meeting the Learning Outcomes will be the following: 70% or above exceeds the standard, 60-69% meets the standard, 50-59% approaches the standard, below 50% does not meet the standard.

*the Department has requested that 241011 be added to this Knowledge & Skills Area and be removed from the Social Sciences Knowledge & Skills Area