

## Folklore and Public Culture Program

### Assessment of Student Learning and Outcomes

#### Student Outcomes:

#### Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) – Folklore

1. Identify and explain key concepts in academic and public folklore.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the research methods associated with academic and public folklore.
3. Understand and apply fieldwork methods and proper documentation techniques necessary for submission of fieldwork for archival preservation.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the multiple theoretical orientations contributing to an understanding and analysis of academic and public folklore.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the types of folkloric expression and various types of folk groups in relationship to historical, cultural, and social contexts.
6. Understand and give examples of what academic and public folklorists do.
7. Evaluate how academic and public folklore contributes to understanding contemporary issues requiring decision making and policy development.

Assessment Methods: Plan to collect information on 1-2 outcomes per year. Plan should identify where the outcomes will be assessed and indicators of student performance.

#### Sources of data and assessment:

1. Selected fieldwork projects will be evaluated by the Folklore archivists for inclusion in the Randall V. Mills Northwest Folklore Archive. Student awards and conference presentations will also be documented by the program.
2. Following completion of FLR 250 and 365 students will be asked to identify in writing types of folklore expressions, demonstrate a familiarity with genres, and comment on their post degree planning.
3. Students will be asked to participate in a survey once they have indicated readiness to graduate. The focus of the survey will be on how well the student

feels they were trained in academic and public folklore, how the student feels about the climate of the program, and what the student plans to be doing after graduation.

4. Core faculty will be asked to submit syllabi for their folklore related courses in Spring term of each academic year.

#### Assessment Processes:

Data related to one or more of the outcomes above will be collected at least once during the academic year and analyzed by a group of core Folklore and Public Culture faculty including the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

#### Status, Outcomes, and Results:

Analysis will be presented to the Folklore and Public Culture core faculty on a yearly basis. It is anticipated that the results of the analysis will inform curriculum development within the program.

#### Directions, Plans, and Recommendations:

After the Director of Undergraduate Studies reviews the data analysis with the core Folklore and Public Culture faculty toward the end of spring term each year, the program director will send out a survey to core faculty requesting feedback on assessment vehicles, data, etc. and develop an action plan for curricular improvement to be reviewed by the core faculty in Fall term.

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