

2016 Academic Assessment Report

B.A. Program in European Studies

Learning Outcomes

Students will:

1. Demonstrate broad, interdisciplinary understanding of European cultures, economics, geographies, history, and politics through coursework in the European Studies core and through advanced courses in multiple humanities and social science fields.
2. Show their ability to think, research, and analyze critically through engagement with topical colloquia treating specific European issues and challenges;
3. Develop effective written and oral communications skills through coursework and by developing and presenting research projects in European Studies colloquia;
4. Build intercultural competencies through such high-impact practices as research, study abroad, internships, and service-learning.
5. Demonstrate functional competency in at least one modern world language other than English

Assessment of Student Learning

Direct Methods

- **EUST 2013 Introduction to Europe:** all European Studies majors and minors are required to take this course, which will deliver the content designated in Learning Outcome 1.
 - **Results:** The program taught 108 students in two sections of EUST 2013.
- **EUST 4003 European Studies Colloquium:** all European Studies majors and minors are required to enroll in at least one colloquium, which will take a topical approach to specific European issues and permit students to develop their critical thinking, research, writing, and speaking skills, as outlined in Learning Outcomes 2 and 3. The program expects that these outcomes will also be served by advanced courses in the major offered by other departments.
 - **Results:** The program taught 19 students in one section of EUST 4003 and 5 students in one section of EUST 4003H. Two of the students in the sections were declared European Studies majors.
- **Advanced Language Courses:** all European studies majors and minors are required to complete two advanced courses in a European language (currently French, German, and Spanish). Successful completion of these courses will represent fulfillment of Learning Outcome 5.
 - **Results:** 100% of students graduating with a European Studies degree met the minimum language requirements.

- **Exit Survey (attached):** Graduating European Studies Majors will be asked to complete an exit survey assessing their participation in high-impact practices and measuring their sense of readiness for careers or graduate study in keeping with Learning Outcome 4.
 - **Results:** The program heavily revised the EUST exit survey, and did not collect surveys from seniors in 2016. The survey will be collected according to the prescribed schedule beginning AY 2016-2017.

Indirect Methods

- **Course Grades and Student GPA:** information on grades from EUST 2013 and EUST 4003 sections will allow the program to measure the quality of student learning in the European Studies core with respect to Learning Outcomes 1, 2, and 3. The program will also collect the overall GPAs of international studies seniors in order to measure their long-term academic attainment.
 - **Results:** The course grades in European Studies courses appears below. The program graduated eleven students with an average GPA of 3.35. These numbers will serve as baselines for future assessment.

Semester	Course	Instructor	Enrollment	Average Course Grade
Fall 2015	EUST 2013	Thomas Goldstein	70	3.12
Spring 2016	EUST 2013	Thomas Goldstein	38	3.26
Spring 2016	EUST 4003	Blake Duffield	19	3.18
Spring 2016	EUST 4003H	Blake Duffield	5	4.0

- **Honors Research Participation:** the program will collect information on graduating Honors students, including their research focus, topics, and honors level, to assess the depth and breadth of work completed by our top students (see Learning Outcome 4).
 - **Results:** The European Studies program supervised one joint honors thesis with International Studies: Andrew Dixon, "Mending Defeatism: American Conceptions of the Cold War from 1975-1988." The EUST program continues to recruit high-ability students as majors in the program.
- **High-Impact Participation:** the program will collect information on all majors who participate in high-impact activities (including study-abroad and internship experiences) to measure their attainment of Learning Outcomes 4 and 5.
 - **Results:** The European Studies program did not process any course requests for study abroad or internships related to the European Studies curriculum. The program did take over the Arkansas Consortium for European Studies student

Registered Student Organization and sponsored an undergraduate research workshop in which seven students presented papers. The program will continue to look for opportunities to promote other types of high-impact learning experiences for majors and minors.