

## 2008 Women's Studies Assessment Report

a. Program Name - Women's Studies

b. Report prepared by - Betsy Lucal

c. Who is the current assessment contact for your program? Betsy Lucal, Chair of Assessment Committee

d. Should assessment information be sent to anyone else in your department? Cathy Borshuk, Director of Women's Studies

1. What are the program's educational goals? (Please take goals directly from your program's assessment plan, and highlight any changes made this year.)

<b>Goal 1:</b> To take into consideration gender, race, class, and sexual orientation in all scholarly activity.	<b>Goal 2:</b> To demonstrate knowledge of the diversity of women's experiences across cultures and history	<b>Goal 3:</b> To be able to voice and provide substantive evidence for their own opinions and bring others into a respectful dialogue.	<b>Goal 4:</b> To demonstrate their own capacity as creators of knowledge through original scholarship, research and/or creative activity.	<b>Goal 5:</b> To demonstrate a capacity to place personal and local experiences into the relevant broader structural contexts.
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2. What assessment techniques did the program use? (Please take assessment techniques directly from your program's assessment plan and highlight any changes made this year.)

The assessment plan calls for the following techniques: 1) Portfolio composed of student work from WOST required core courses (W100, W301, W299, W360, W480, and senior seminar), and 2) Exit Interview with each graduating senior to discuss their perceptions of the quality of their learning and their suggestions for improvement.

However, given that WOST has had a small number of graduates in the past few years (most of whom have now left the South Bend area), exit interviews are simply not feasible for the group of 5 recent graduates. Instead, we used a survey of recent graduates to get their feedback for assessment. (See below.) We also created a rubric for assessment of the portfolios. (See below.)

3. What has your program done with assessment information this year? (i.e. communicated results to faculty, staff, alumni and students, made changes in the curriculum, made changes in the budget, added new courses. . .)

The Assessment Committee will meet in fall 2008 to discuss the portfolios and survey results. We will report our findings to the Women's Studies Governing Board. We will discuss how to improve assessment at that time.

4. After reflecting on assessment activities in your unit, as a result of assessment what are two issues you would like to address?

Two issues we need to address: 1) Rewriting our educational goals to make them more useful and measurable and 2) rewriting our assessment plan to reflect actual practice.

**Survey of Recent Graduates, Women’s Studies Program, IUSB**

Please circle the response that best reflects your experiences as a Women’s Studies major.

Use these categories for your responses:

1	2	3
Not as well as I expected	As well as I expected	Better than I expected

1. How well did you achieve the following learning goals?

To take into consideration gender, race, class and sexual orientation in all scholarly activity.

1 2 3

To demonstrate knowledge of the diversity of women’s experiences across cultures and history.

1 2 3

To be able to voice and provide substantive evidence for your own opinions and bring others into a respectful dialogue

1 2 3

To demonstrate your own capacity as a creator of knowledge through original scholarship, research and/or creative activity.

1 2 3

To demonstrate a capacity to place personal and local experiences into the relevant broader structural contexts.

1 2 3

2. What aspects of your education in this program helped you with your learning?

Why were these aspects of your education helpful?

3. What might the program do differently that would have helped you learn more effectively?

Why would these actions have helped?

4. Other comments you would like to share with the program.

**WOST Assessment Rubric**

Goal 1: To take into consideration gender, race, class and sexual orientation in all scholarly activity.

Did not meet expectations: Little or no evidence of this consideration

Met expectations: Some evidence of this consideration

Exceeded expectations: Evidence of exceptional ability to take this into consideration

Goal 2: To demonstrate knowledge of the diversity of women’s experiences across cultures and history.

Did not meet expectations: Little of no evidence of this knowledge

Met expectations: Some evidence of this knowledge

Exceeded expectations: Evidence of exceptional knowledge in this area

Goal 3: To be able to voice and provide substantive evidence of their own opinions and bring others into a respectful dialogue.

Did not meet expectations: Little or no evidence of this ability

Met expectations: Some evidence of this ability

Exceeded expectations: Evidence of exceptional ability in this area

Goal 4: To demonstrate their own capacity as creators of knowledge through original scholarship, research and/or creative activity.

Did not meet expectations: Little or no demonstration of this capacity

Met expectations: Some evidence of this capacity

Exceeded expectations: Evidence of exceptional achievement in this capacity

Goal 5: To demonstrate a capacity to place personal and local experiences into the relevant broader structural contexts.

Did not meet expectations: Little or no demonstration of this capacity

Met expectations: Some evidence of this capacity

Exceeded expectations: Evidence of exceptional achievement in this capacity