

**Graduate Program Report
 Doctoral Degree program
 American Studies
 2016**

Program Learning Outcomes

Doctoral degree program

1. Produce and defend an original, significant contribution to knowledge appropriate to the discipline
2. Demonstrate mastery of subject content knowledge and methodologies
3. Demonstrate effective written communication
4. Demonstrate effective oral communication
5. Demonstrate ability to conduct scholarly activities in an ethical manner

Identified Data Sources

Doctoral program

	Outcomes				
Data Source	1	2	3	4	5
Dissertation defense	X		X		
Written and oral comprehensive exams		X		X	
Ethics training in responsible conduct of research (CITI)					X

Results

In 2016, the following 21 students were in the AMST doctoral program:

Of the students in the AMST doctoral program, 67% have passed the written and oral comprehensive exams.

~One student defended a dissertation in summer 2016 and graduated in fall 2016.

~One student has taken an academic job at another university and is no longer in the program.

Until 2014, there was no formal training in research ethics required in the doctoral program. All students are now required to complete CITI research ethics training. For 2016, 86% of students have completed CITI training. One student is in the process of completing the training and another will be completing the training this summer. The third student currently has a medical emergency and will need to schedule that training for a later time.

Assessment

Based on the data collected, it appears that the doctoral program outcomes are being met. It is recommended, however, that the AMST program require CITI training to be completed by the end of the first semester in which they enroll in order to avoid having a “hold” placed on their record.

It is also recommended that the program continue locating additional funding sources for doctoral students; at present, the limited sources of funding do not enable students to move through the doctoral program in a timely fashion. Additional funding sources will not only increase the number of students who complete the PhD, but will also make them more competitive as candidates on the job market.

Also, following the recommendations made by the external review of the program conducted in spring 2016, the faculty associated with AMST as well as the doctoral students look forward to having a program Director selected this year whose job it will be to oversee the program. Faculty and students in the program also look forward to having a space to house AMST and its activities in order to foster more cohesion and community among students and faculty in the program.