

Graduate Program Report
Master's Degree program
American Studies
 September 1, 2014 David Cherry

Program Learning Outcomes

Master's degree program

1. Conduct research 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

Master's Degree program – coursework option

	Outcomes				
Data Source	1	2	3	4	5
Culminating research paper and presentation (AMST 501/502)	X		X		
Written and oral comprehensive exams		X		X	
Ethics training in responsible conduct of research (CITI)					X

Master's Degree program – thesis option

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

Results

In the period 2012-14, there were five (5) students in the Master's program. All are still in the program. Two (2) are doing the all course work option; the other three (3) are doing the Thesis option.

The two (2) students were completing the all coursework option.

Neither student has yet attempted the written and oral comprehensive exams.

The three (3) students were completing the are doing the thesis option are:

None of the three students has yet attempted the written and oral comprehensive exams or defended their theses.

Until now, there was no formal training in research ethics required in the Master's degree program. All students will now be required to complete CITI research ethics training. The five students in the program are being instructed to complete the training. Results will be tabulated and included in the next assessment report, in September, 2016.

Assessment

Based on a very limited set of data, it appears that the program outcomes are being met. The faculty who are working with graduate students in the program will be given the results and will determine if changes to the program are indicated.