

# Assessment Plan

## Western Michigan University

### Africana Studies

**Mission Statement:** Africana Studies is the study, research, interpretation, and the dissemination of knowledge concerning African American, African, and Caribbean affairs and cultures. Using methodologies from the humanities, fine arts, and social sciences, Africana Studies examines the structure, organization, problems, and perspectives of Blacks in America and the African Diaspora. The academic major provide a meaningful liberal arts training for students from any racial or cultural background.

**Vision Statement:** It is expected that faculty will utilize the outcome of our assessment to improve instructional strategies and goals to ensure positive learning outcomes.

**Outcome: Content Knowledge**

Measuring student's knowledge of course content.

**Outcome Status:** Active

Means of Assessment			
Assessment Method	Criterion	Schedule	Active
Survey questionnaires will be administered to students registered in courses we teach each semester. We hope to tabulate the percentage of responses from students. Thus measuring the outcome of teaching strategies by faculty in the courses.  <b>Assessment Method Category:</b> Survey-Student	students understand specific topic and issues, and also to assess whether faculty members have met instructional goals that lead to successful student educational outcomes. It is expected that student responses rated 70% indicates that students are attaining a level of competency that would allow them to communicate effectively the theories, ideas, and philosophies of the discipline.	Once per semester	Yes
For Academic year 2008-2009 We administered a pre-course survey questionnaires at the beginning of each semester to determine students' knowledge of specific issues and topics in our courses. And at the end of the semester we administered a post-course survey questionnaires to determine any significant changes in students' knowledge of the same issues and topics.  <b>Assessment Method Category:</b> Survey-Student	students understand specific topic and issues, and also to assess whether faculty members have met instructional goals that lead to successful student educational outcomes. It is expected that students' response to the survey questionnaires should indicate that students have improved in their knowledge of relevant issues and topics taught in the courses.	Surveys were administered in fall and spring semesters.	Yes

**Related Courses**

- \* AFS 2000 - Intro to Africana Studies
- \* AFS 2100 - Comparative Approaches to Forms of Black Consciousness
- \* AFS 3010 - The African Experience: From 1866 To the Present

**Outcome: Assess the impact of course pre-requisites on enrollment**

What impact course pre-requisites have had on enrollment numbers in our courses.

**Start Date:** 01/08/2008

**End Date:** 04/18/2008

**Outcome Status:** Active

Means of Assessment
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**Means of Assessment**

<b>Assessment Method</b>	<b>Criterion</b>	<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Active</b>
We will interview students who have registered for Africana Studies courses in focus groups to evaluate the impact of pre-requisites on how easy it was for them to register for our courses.	Investigate the correlation between pre-requisite requirements and low course enrollments.		Yes
<b>Assessment Method Category:</b> External Boards, Advisory or Focus Groups			