**Annual Assessment Report for 2020-2021 AY**

Reports completed on assessment activities carried out during the 2020-2021 AY will be due September 30th 2021 and must be e-mailed to the Director of Assessment, Dr. Douglas Fraleigh (douglasf@csufresno.edu).

Provide detailed responses for each of the following questions within this word document. Please do NOT insert an index or add formatting. For purposes of this report, you should only report on two or three student learning outcomes (department’s choice) even if your external accreditor requires you to evaluate four or more outcomes each year. Also be sure to explain or omit specialized or discipline-specific terms.

Department/Program: \_\_\_English\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Degree: \_M.A. Literature Option\_\_

Assessment Coordinator: \_\_\_John Beynon\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **Please list the learning outcomes you assessed this year.**

SLO 2A, Option in Literature: Students will situate texts within historical periods and analyze them within current critical paradigms.

1. **What assignment or survey did you use to assess the outcomes and what method (criteria or rubric) did you use to evaluate the assignment? Please describe the assignment and the criteria or rubric used to evaluate the assignment in detail and, if possible, include copies of the assignment and criteria/rubric at the end of this report.**

We assessed the Graduate Writing Skills Requirement (GWSR) that each M.A. students is required to satisfy before the advance to candidacy, usually at the outset of their third semester in the program. We relied on this mandate: “Students will situate texts within historical periods and analyze them within current critical paradigms. This will entail evaluation of Graduate Writing Skills Requirement (GWSR) Writing Samples. The program will assess a revised student paper written for a graduate course—usually a revised research paper written for a graduate seminar—at the beginning of the semester during which a student plans to advance to candidacy—for signs of mastery over writing and research skills related to the following four criteria: 1) scholarly merit, 2) organization and structure, 3) complexity of evidence and analysis, and 4) adherence to appropriate academic conventions.”

1. **What did you learn from your analysis of the data? Please include sample size (how many students were evaluated) and indicate how many students (number or percentage instead of a median or mean) were designated as proficient. Also indicate your benchmark (e.g. 80% of students will be designated as proficient or higher) and indicate the number of students who met that benchmark.**

We evaluated 3 M.A. English, Literature Option Students’ writing submissions for the Graduate Writing Skills Requirement (GWSR). (Only three students were at the point in their studies to submit writing samples for this requirement.) These are papers that students have written for a graduate-level course and have revised according to feedback from their instructors. Each sample is evaluated according to the rubric described above in response to question 2. Students must receive at least 2 scores of Accomplished across the 4 criteria in the rubric to achieve the required evaluation of Accomplished. Of the 3 samples reviewed in fall 2020-spring 2021, all 3 received overall scores of Accomplished. Results of those evaluations (and subsequent academic year evaluations) are available here: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1cj_GrRKuN7sBEDd3U0Z14kBXBe0PhttW0yUUU9RaUOc/edit?usp=sharing>.

1. What changes, if any, do you recommend based on the assessment data?

Thus far, no major changes seem needed. However, based on feedback to the samples, instructors in our graduate seminars would do well to spend more time teaching students to integrate theoretical and critical viewpoints into the writing as well as to integrate secondary sources more successfully.

We felt that some additional information needed to be captured on our evaluation form (student’s option, the semester and year when they submitted the sample, and qualitative feedback), so we have added these fields to the form for 2021-22.

1. If you recommended any changes in your response to Question 4 in your 2018-19 assessment report, what progress have you made in implementing these changes? If you did not recommend making any changes in last year’s report please write N/A as your answer to this question.

Our sample size was unusually small for 2020-21, but we have continued to evaluate GWSR samples, and we will continue to track how successful students are at satisfying this requirement.

1. What assessment activities will you be conducting during AY 2021-22?

During 2021-22, we will be evaluating GWSR samples for our Rhetoric and Writing Studies option students. We will have a better sense of how we are doing with this graduation requirement at that point.

1. Identify and discuss any major issues identified during your last Program Review and in what ways these issues have or have not been addressed.

We are learning how to determine an ideal size for our graduate program. In 2020-21, we admitted a record number of students to the program, but we now understand where the “growing pain points” are when we increase admissions.