Student Learning Objectives Assessment  
Women’s & Gender Studies  
AY 2012-2013

**Course Name & Number:** WMST 310: Issues in Women’s Studies (winter quarter 2013)

**Assessment Goal/Objective:** *Students will demonstrate knowledge of women’s individual and collective cultural contributions.*

**Assessment Mechanism:** Assessment was conducted in WMST 310 as an embedded direct assessment through a final comprehensive essay exam question. The written exam question used in WMST 310 assessed Student Learning Objective # 4:” *Students will demonstrate knowledge of women’s individual and collective cultural contributions.*” The essay exam question is included below:

**Final exam essay question:** Based on your critical screening and analysis of the film: *Iron Jawed Angels* (Katja von Garnier, 2004) discuss the U.S. Suffrage movement and its impact on women’s political participation and representation in the U.S. today. Make use of Seager’s Women in the World Atlas and at least one reference to the chapter on Women’s Political Participation Worldwide (chapter 11, Shaw and Lee).

**Essay Response Rubric**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points Possible</th>
<th>Assessment Criteria</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 points</td>
<td>Full comprehension and excellent application of terms, concepts and theoretical arguments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 points</td>
<td>Good comprehension and developing abilities to apply core course terms, concepts and theoretical arguments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 points</td>
<td>Basic comprehension and some demonstrated abilities to apply core course terms, concepts and theoretical arguments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 points</td>
<td>Bare-bones comprehension and limited demonstrated abilities to apply core course terms, concepts and theoretical arguments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 points</td>
<td>Flawed comprehension indicating some serious misunderstanding or lack of serious engagement with core course terms, concepts and theoretical arguments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 points</td>
<td>Written work reflects minimal intellectual understanding, little to no apparent ability to effectively use and apply primary course concepts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>0 points</td>
<td>No effort, student did not answer or attempt to convey a sense of understanding.</td>
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Summary of Results from the Assessment Mechanism:

30 students completed the final examination and embedded comprehensive essay response question for the course. The final exam included a combination of question types (including multiple choice questions, true or false questions, matching terms and short answer essay questions). Below is the high, average and low score on the final examination grades. Final scores for the exam indicate that a majority of students developed knowledge at a satisfactorily developing to exemplary level demonstrating an aptitude to identify and discuss women’s individual and collective cultural contributions to society. Applied understanding was specifically evaluated in the written responses to the above essay exam question.

Exam Results

94% - 100%  A  2 student
88% - 92%  A-  6 students
84% - 87%  B+  7 students
80% - 83%  B  5 students
76% - 79%  B-  2 students
72% - 75%  C+  5 students
68% - 71%  C  3 students
64% - 67%  C-  0 students
61% - 63%  D+  0 students
58% - 60%  D  0 students
56% - 58%  D-  0 students
0% - 55%  F  0 students

Average Score: 82
High Score:  96
Low Score:   69

Interpretation of the results to determine what changes, if any ought to be made to improve student learning:

The results from this assessment indicate that virtually all of the students demonstrated excellent to satisfactory abilities to identify and discuss women’s individual and collective cultural
contributions. These results point toward the conclusion that students in the course show basic to accomplished increases in their knowledge of women’s individual and collective cultural contributions to society.

Changes to the methodology for assessing student learning may be enriched by use of a pre- and post-test in order to gauge the extent to which learning increases in this specific area as a result of completing the WMST Issues in Women’s Studies course.