

2017-2018 Assessment Cycle COLA_Center for Louisiana Studies

Mission (due 12/4/17)

University Mission

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette offers an exceptional education informed by diverse worldviews grounded in tradition, heritage, and culture. We develop leaders and innovators who advance knowledge, cultivate aesthetic sensibility, and improve the human condition.

University Values

We strive to create a community of leaders and innovators in an environment that fosters a desire to advance and disseminate knowledge. We support the mission of the university by actualizing our core values of equity, integrity, intellectual curiosity, creativity, tradition, transparency, respect, collaboration, pluralism, and sustainability.

University Vision

We strive to be included in the top 25% of our peer institutions by 2020, improving our national and international status and recognition.

College / VP and Program / Department Mission

Mission of College or VP-area

Provide the mission for the College or VP-area in the space provided. If none is available, write "None Available in 2017-2018."

The College of Liberal Arts is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge through teaching, research, and service. The College teaches students to think critically, applying scientific principles and intellectual schema to understand human behavior and society in a diverse world, to express ideas and ideals in a variety of forms, and to understand themselves and others as members of regional and global communities. The intellectual and creative foundations of this enterprise are written and oral communication, analytical and reasoning skills, and the ability to solve problems creatively. Each departmental curriculum presents perspectives from the past, provides an understanding of the present and directs attention to the challenges of the future. As active researchers, faculty in the College work to advance the frontiers of knowledge and our understanding of humanity and the world we live in, and to use that knowledge and understanding to improve the human condition.

Mission of Program / Department

Provide the program / department mission in the space provided. The mission statement should concisely define the purpose, functions, and key constituents. If none is available, write "None Available in 2017-2018."

Established in 1973, the Center for Louisiana Studies (CLS) promotes scholarly investigation into Louisiana's rich cultures and heritage through acquisition, research, publication, and interpretation.

The Center for Louisiana Studies is made up of three complementary divisions. These three components provide a comprehensive structure for researching, publicizing, and promoting Louisiana's cultures.

Attachment (optional)

Upload any documents which support the program / department assessment process.

Assessment Plan (due 12/4/17)

Assessment Plan (Goals / Objectives, Assessment Measures and Criteria for Success)

Assessment List

Goal/Objective	Disseminate historical scholarship through publication of Louisiana History, the official organ of the Louisiana Historical Association.		
Legends	OO - Outcome/Objective (administrative units);		
Standards/Outcomes			
Assessment Measures	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Attachments
	Indirect - Activity Volume (Other)	Criterion: Prepare, edit and Publish Four Issues of Louisiana History per year. Four successful issues	

Goal/Objective	Promote interaction and collaboration among Louisiana historians		
Legends	OO - Outcome/Objective (administrative units);		
Standards/Outcomes			
Assessment Measures	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Attachments
	Indirect - Activity Volume (Other)	Count actual number of attendees at Louisiana Historical Association's annual meeting, organized by CLS, including the number of students presenting papers at the convention's Louisiana Phi Alpha Theta (history honor society) sessions.	
	Indirect - Focus Groups	The board of the Louisiana Historical Association Meeting regularly convenes during and after the meeting and makes strategy and policy decisions for improving the following year's meeting. One successful conference per year.	

Goal/Objective	Disseminate historical scholarship through maintenance of a journal exchange program		
Legends	OO - Outcome/Objective (administrative units);		
Standards/Outcomes			
Assessment			

Measures	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Attachments
	Indirect - Activity Volume (Other)	Count the number of historical journals received in exchange for Louisiana History by the office. Maintain exchange program with 35 journals.	

Goal/Objective	Digitize and catalog audio and video fieldwork materials relating to Acadiana's history and folklore held in the Archives of Cajun and Creole Folklore.		
Legends	OO - Outcome/Objective (administrative units);		
Standards/Outcomes			
Assessment Measures	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Attachments
	Indirect - Activity Volume (Other)	Report number of hours of digitized and cataloged materials.	

Goal/Objective	Recruit new additions to archival holdings of the Archives of Cajun and Creole Folklore.		
Legends	OO - Outcome/Objective (administrative units);		
Standards/Outcomes			
Assessment Measures	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Attachments
	Indirect - Activity Volume (Other)	Report number of new collections or materials added to Archives of Cajun and Creole Folklore	

Goal/Objective	Organize and coordinate academic talks, public lectures, and discussion series, including Bayou State Book Talks.		
Legends	OO - Outcome/Objective (administrative units);		
Standards/Outcomes			
Assessment Measures			

	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Attachments
	Indirect - Academic Indirect Outcome (Other)	Report number of lectures sponsored and given, including CLS staff presentations. CLS will sponsor at least 8 invited public lectures, and CLS staff will give at least 8 on- or off-campus presentations.	

Goal/Objective	Working with state, regional, and local groups in addition to private businesses, the Programming and Special Projects division advises and participates in projects designed to stimulate Louisiana's economy through preservation and promotion of Louisiana's cultures and peoples. These activities are supported by grants, donations, and the Center's fundraising efforts. The Center also encourages researchers to visit and work with Center staff on their projects, and it assists in the development of new resources, from tourism initiatives to preservation efforts, interdisciplinary fieldwork, multimedia presentations, creative placemaking strategies, and heritage consultation.								
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Goal/Objective	Engage in Louisiana-focused research centered projects. CLS staff will engage in individual, group, and collaborative research efforts designed to increase understanding of Louisiana's history and cultures.								
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Program / Department Assessment Narrative

The primary purpose of assessment is to use data to inform decisions and improve programs (student learning) and departments (operations); this is an on-going process of defining goals and expectations, collecting results, analyzing data, comparing current and past results and initiatives, and making decisions based on these reflections. In the space below, describe the program's or department's overall plan for improving student learning and/or operations (the "assessment plan"). Consider the following:

- 1) What strategies exist to assess the outcomes?
- 2) What does the program/department expect to achieve with the goals and objectives identified above?
- 3) How might prior or current initiatives (improvements) influence the anticipated outcomes this year?
- 4) What is the plan for using data to improve student learning and/or operations?
- 5) How will data be shared within the Program/Department (and, where appropriate, the College/VP-area)?

Assessment Process

1. Records are kept of all CLS activities on an ongoing basis. These provide the foundation for regular reports to the Center director, as well as end-of-the-year cumulative reports used for assessing outcomes.
2. We expect to achieve the continued overall mission of the Center: Educating both academic and general audiences about Louisiana's history and cultures and providing materials to researchers that will allow them to do the same.
3. Our anticipated outcomes do not change from year to year because of our small staff and our very limited budget.
4. The plan for using the data collected and assessed is to gauge whether or not we are losing ground due to our staff and budget constraints.
5. Data is shared with individual staff members for their areas of responsibility and with the staff as a whole at a general staff meeting.

Results & Improvements (due 9/15/18)

Results and Improvement Narratives

Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Disseminate historical scholarship through publication of Louisiana History, the official organ of the Louisiana Historical Association.

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Assessment Findings					
	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Summary	Attachments of the Assessments	Improvement Narratives

	Indirect - Activity Volume (Other)	Has the criterion Criterion: Prepare, edit and Publish Four Issues of Louisiana History per year. Four successful issues been met yet? Met	Published 4 issues, with a total of 780 subscribers.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: This goal/objective is the same every year and will not change.
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Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Promote interaction and collaboration among Louisiana historians

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		been met yet? Met			
	Indirect - Focus Groups	Has the criterion The board of the Louisiana Historical Association Meeting regularly convenes during and after the meeting and makes strategy and policy decisions for improving the following year's meeting. One successful conference per year. been met yet? Met	The LHA held its annual meeting April 12-15 in New Orleans, LA at the Hampton Inn and Suites Conference Center.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: This goal/objective is the same every year and will not change.

Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Disseminate historical scholarship through maintenance of a journal exchange program

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Assessment Findings	Assessment Measure		Criterion	Summary	Attachments of the Assessments	Improvement Narratives
	Indirect - Activity Volume (Other)		Has the criterion Count the number of historical journals received in exchange for Louisiana History by the office. Maintain exchange program with 35 journals. been met yet?	Exchanged Louisiana History for 33 scholarly journals that have been deposited into Dupre Library.		- : This goal/objective is the same every year and will not change.

		Not met			
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Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Digitize and catalog audio and video fieldwork materials relating to Acadiana's history and folklore held in the Archives of Cajun and Creole Folklore.

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Assessment Findings	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Summary	Attachments of the Assessments	Improvement Narratives
	Indirect - Activity Volume (Other)	Has the criterion Report number of hours of digitized and cataloged materials. been met yet? Met	Restored and digitized approximately 530 hours of archival materials. Cataloged approximately 1300 hours.		

Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Recruit new additions to archival holdings of the Archives of Cajun and Creole Folklore.

Goal/Objective	Recruit new additions to archival holdings of the Archives of Cajun and Creole Folklore.				
Legends	OO - Outcome/Objective (administrative units);				
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Assessment Findings	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Summary	Attachments of the Assessments	Improvement Narratives
	Indirect - Activity Volume (Other)	Has the criterion Report number of new collections or materials added to Archives of Cajun and Creole Folklore been met yet? Met	25 collections were either created or added to.		

Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Organize and coordinate academic talks, public lectures, and discussion series, including Bayou State Book Talks.

Goal/Objective	Organize and coordinate academic talks, public lectures, and discussion series, including Bayou State Book Talks.				
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		Not met	not met.		
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Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Working with state, regional, and local groups in addition to private businesses, the Programming and Special Projects division advises and participates in projects designed to stimulate Louisiana's economy through preservation and promotion of Louisiana's cultures and peoples. These activities are supported by grants, donations, and the Center's fundraising efforts. The Center also encourages researchers to visit and work with Center staff on their projects, and it assists in the development of new resources, from tourism initiatives to preservation efforts, interdisciplinary fieldwork, multimedia presentations, creative placemaking strategies, and heritage consultation.

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		members, and advisors to at least 10 organizations that share the CLS mission. been met yet? Met	Festivals Acadiens et Creoles, KRVS, KNHS, Lafayette Convention and Visitors Center, Hilliard University Art Museum, Louisiana Association of Museums, National Endowment for the Arts, Art+Business=Culture, National World War II Museum, Louisiana Folklife Commission.		
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Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Engage in Louisiana-focused research centered projects. CLS staff will engage in individual, group, and collaborative research efforts designed to increase understanding of Louisiana's history and cultures.

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<p> Musicians (Festivals Acadiens 360 Footage), Various Performers (Mardi Gras Indians 360 Footage), "Crafting the South LA Sound" 360 Footage Docksides 360 Footage, (Various Musicians) Festivals Acadiens 2017 Recording - multi-tracked and stereo tracked material KRVS 360 Footage Co-Curated Exhibits: "Crafting the South Louisiana Sound" at the Hilliard Museum - Collected 75 handmade South LA instruments. Exhibit ran from Sept 7-Oct 15. Sept. 19 Tuesday 2:00-3:15 Dr. Wilson LA Literature 25 students Sept. 22 Friday 9:00-11:00 St. Theresa Homeschool- 19 students, 3 teachers, 9 parents Oct. 3 Tuesday 10:00-11:30 Paul Breaux Middle School Gifted 15 students 2 teachers Oct. 4 Wednesday 10:-11:30 Paul Breaux Middle School Gifted 7 students 2 teachers Oct. 4 Wednesday 1:00-2:00 John Paul the Great, 17 students, Kristi Guillory, 3 teachers Oct. 5 Thursday 10:00-11:30 Paul Breaux Middle School Gifted 25 students Oct. 5 Thursday 12:00-1:45 L.J. Alleman - Jane Vidrine's guitar class 28 students Oct. 7 Saturday Play Day at the Museum - Family Dance at 10:30 and demonstration at 11:30- 143 adults, 112 children Oct. 11 Wednesday 9:00-10:00 Chere Coen Writing Group 15 adults Oct. 13 Friday 9:00- 11:00 Education Destination 26 students divided into two groups- children on the Autism spectrum </p>	
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Reflection (Due 9/15/18)

Reflection

The primary purpose of assessment is to use data to inform decisions and improve programs and operations; this is an on-going process of defining goals and expectations, collecting results, analyzing data, comparing current and past results and initiatives, and making decisions based on these reflections. Recalling this purpose, respond to the questions below.

1) How were assessment results shared in the program / department?

Please select all that apply. If "other", please use the text box to elaborate.

Distributed via email

Presented formally at staff / department / committee meetings

Discussed informally (selected)

Other (explain in text box below)

2) How frequently were assessment results shared?

Frequently (>4 times per cycle)

Periodically (2-4 times per cycle) (selected)

Once per cycle

Results were not shared this cycle

3) With whom were assessment results shared?

Please select all that apply.

Department Head

Dean / Asst. or Assoc. Dean

Departmental assessment committee

Other faculty / staff (selected)

4) Consider the impact of prior applied changes. Specifically, compare current results to previous results to evaluate the impact of a previously reported change. Demonstrate how the use of results improved student learning and/or operations.

As the goals and mission of the Center for Louisiana Studies have remained relatively constant during the past 3-5 cycles, it is difficult to determine whether the effects reflected the prior action plans. Going forward, however, the assessment measures enumerated here will likely change to reflect the strategic direction of new Center leadership. Current metrics, for instance, focused on the operations of the Louisiana Historical Association will likely not figure into future assessments.

5) Over the past three assessment cycles, what has been the overall impact of "closing the loop"? Provide examples of improvements in student learning, program quality, or department operations that are directly linked to assessment data and follow-up analysis.

My impression is that the Center could benefit from assessment measures that reflect broader strategic drive for 1) professional development 2) interdisciplinarity 3) patron/constituent outreach. I'd also like to see assessment results discussed with our Dean in the future in order to ensure alignment with the University's broader strategic plan.

Attachments (optional)

Upload any documents which support the program / department assessment process.