

Program Outcomes and Assessment

Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies (BALS)

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Program Mission Statement:

The Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies Program at Clayton State University seeks to instill in its students a broad sense of the nature of humanities, social sciences and liberal arts traditions and a deeper knowledge of an area of expertise within those fields, which will be reflected in critical thinking, communication, global awareness, appreciation of diversity and a better understanding of the complexities of the 21st Century World.

Learning Outcomes

Students who complete the degree requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies Program will be able to:

Outcome 1: Demonstrate the ability to engage in perspective-taking.

Outcome 2: Integrate knowledge and modes of thinking drawn from two or more disciplines.

Outcome 3: Produce an interdisciplinary understanding of a complex problem or intellectual question

Outcome 4: Engage in experiential learning in prospective career or academic field by serving effectively in a semester long internship.

Outcome 5: Demonstrate advanced critical thinking skills at levels required for effective performance in professional and other social or cultural contexts.

Outcome 6: Demonstrate advanced communication skills (written, spoken, computer-assisted) at levels required for effective performance in professional and other social or cultural contexts

Assessment Methods/Types of Evidence

Data Collection 1:

- Graduate Exit Survey
- Data from course grading rubrics (introductory, intermediate & advanced)
- Successful completion of degree requirements

Data Collection 2:

- Graduate Exit Survey
- Data from course grading rubrics (introductory, intermediate & advanced)
- Successful completion of degree requirements

Data Collection 3:

- Graduate Exit Survey
- Data from course grading rubrics (introductory, intermediate & advanced)
- Successful completion of an Arts & Sciences Minor Program
- Successful completion of degree requirements

Data Collection 4:

- Student Internship Reports
- Student Reflection
- Site Supervisor Evaluation
- Successful completion of BALS 3901, "Integrative Studies Practicum/Internship

Data Collection 5:

- Exit Interview
- Course Evaluations
- Data from course grading rubrics (introductory, intermediate & advanced)

Data Collection 6:

- Exit Interview
- Course Evaluations
- Data from course grading rubrics (introductory, intermediate & advanced)

Data Collection Overview

<i>Student Outcomes</i>	<i>Sources of Evidence</i>	<i>When Will Data Collection Take Place</i>	<i>Who Will Collect Information</i>
1. Demonstrate the ability to engage in perspective-taking.	Graduate Exit Survey Data from course grading rubrics (introductory, intermediate & advanced) Successful completion of degree requirements	When student applies to Graduate Continuously in all courses	Office of Institutional Effectiveness Course Instructors/Program Office
2. Integrate knowledge and modes of thinking drawn from two or more disciplines.	Graduate Exit Survey Data from course grading rubrics (introductory, intermediate & advanced) Successful completion of degree requirements	When student applies to Graduate Continuously in all courses	Office of Institutional Effectiveness Course Instructors/Program Office
3. Produce an interdisciplinary understanding of a complex problem or intellectual question	Graduate Exit Survey Data from course grading rubrics (introductory, intermediate & advanced) Successful completion of an Arts & Sciences Minor Program Successful completion of	When student applies to Graduate Continuously in all courses Throughout the Program	Office of Institutional Effectiveness Course Instructors/Program Office Academic Advisor

<i>Student Outcomes</i>	<i>Sources of Evidence</i>	<i>When Will Data Collection Take Place</i>	<i>Who Will Collect Information</i>
	degree requirements		
4. Engage in experiential learning in prospective career or academic field by serving effectively in a semester long internship.	Student Internship Reports Student Reflection Site Supervisor Evaluation Successful completion of BALS 3901, "Integrative Studies Practicum/Internship"	In the semester(s) of BALS 3901	Coordinator of Integrative Studies and Internship Coordinator in Career Services
5. Demonstrate advanced critical thinking skills at levels required for effective performance in professional and other social or cultural contexts.	Exit Interview Course Evaluations Data from course grading rubrics (introductory, intermediate & advanced)	When student applies to Graduate At the end of each semester Continuously in all courses	Coordinator of Liberal Studies Office of Institutional Effectiveness Course Instructors/Program Office
6. Demonstrate advanced communication skills (written, spoken, computer-assisted) at levels required for effective performance in professional and other social or cultural contexts.	Exit Interview Course Evaluations Data from course grading rubrics (introductory, intermediate & advanced)	When student applies to Graduate At the end of each semester Continuously in all courses	Coordinator of Liberal Studies Office of Institutional Effectiveness Course Instructors/Program Office

Discussion of Results and Changes

Program Changes and Results relating to all Learning Outcomes 1-6 are as follows:

2005: INTE 3500 – Worlds of Work removed from degree requirements and inactivated in curriculum
According to course/instructor evaluations, graduate exit surveys/interviews and program self-study, this course is unsuccessful in meeting Learning Outcomes 1-6 and individual student academic and career goals are not met by this course.

Student papers and examinations in courses identified through individualized curriculum plans continue to address Learning Outcome 1-6. More emphasis is now placed on the Internship – INTE 3901 and Service Learning becomes a program priority.

2007: INTE 4500- Capstone Seminar removed from degree requirements and inactivated in curriculum
According to course/instructor evaluations, graduate exit surveys/interviews and program self-study, this course is unsuccessful in meeting Learning Outcomes 1 and individual student academic and career goals are not met by this course.

Students are advised to undertake more than 1 semester of internship/service learning during their academic program. Students are encouraged to intern in a variety of different work environments depending on individualized career and academic goals. Students may enroll in up to 3 semesters for a total of 9 credit hours of internship coursework (INTE 3901).

2008: BSIS Program curriculum requires all students to declare a concentration by enrolling in 5 upper division (3000-4000 level courses) in a single disciplinary area.

2008: The Integrative Studies Degree Program, which was formerly BS/BA in Integrative Studies, is split to create a new Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies Program with the goal of creating an interdisciplinary program focusing on the Liberal Arts.

2009: While the Learning Outcomes of the BSIS and the BALS Programs remain the same, the missions of these programs are distinct. The BALS Program is will continue to undergo curricular changes that make this program into a contemporary liberal arts program. Currently the primarily curricular distinction is that the BALS Program requires students to complete a minor in an Arts and Sciences related discipline while the BSIS Program only requires a 5-course concentration in related upper division coursework. Plans are currently underway to add a foreign language requirement to the BALS Program with incremental plans to link the foreign language coursework to minor programs and other related upper division coursework.

2010: Curriculum Proposals for new foreign language requirements are in process.

Data Collection Overview

<i>Student Outcomes</i>	<i>Sources of Evidence</i>	<i>When Will Data Collection Take Place</i>	<i>Who Will Collect Information</i>
1. Demonstrate the ability to engage in perspective-taking.	Graduate Exit Survey Data from course grading rubrics (introductory, intermediate & advanced) Successful completion of degree requirements	When student applies to Graduate Continuously in all courses	Office of Institutional Effectiveness Course Instructors/Program Office
2. Integrate knowledge and modes of thinking drawn from two or more disciplines.	Graduate Exit Survey Data from course grading rubrics (introductory, intermediate & advanced) Successful completion of degree requirements	When student applies to Graduate Continuously in all courses	Office of Institutional Effectiveness Course Instructors/Program Office
3. Produce an interdisciplinary understanding of a complex problem or intellectual question	Graduate Exit Survey Data from course grading rubrics (introductory, intermediate & advanced) Successful completion of an Arts & Sciences Minor Program Successful completion of degree requirements	When student applies to Graduate Continuously in all courses Throughout the Program	Office of Institutional Effectiveness Course Instructors/Program Office Academic Advisor
4. Engage in experiential learning in prospective career or academic field by serving effectively in a semester long internship.	Student Internship Reports Student Reflection Site Supervisor Evaluation Successful completion of BALS 3901, "Integrative Studies	In the semester(s) of BALS 3901	Coordinator of Integrative Studies and Internship Coordinator in Career Services

<i>Student Outcomes</i>	<i>Sources of Evidence</i>	<i>When Will Data Collection Take Place</i>	<i>Who Will Collect Information</i>
	Practicum/Internship		
5. Demonstrate advanced critical thinking skills at levels required for effective performance in professional and other social or cultural contexts.	Exit Interview Course Evaluations Data from course grading rubrics (introductory, intermediate & advanced)	When student applies to Graduate At the end of each semester Continuously in all courses	Coordinator of Liberal Studies Office of Institutional Effectiveness Course Instructors/Program Office
6. Demonstrate advanced communication skills (written, spoken, computer-assisted) at levels required for effective performance in professional and other social or cultural contexts.	Exit Interview Course Evaluations Data from course grading rubrics (introductory, intermediate & advanced)	When student applies to Graduate At the end of each semester Continuously in all courses	Coordinator of Liberal Studies Office of Institutional Effectiveness Course Instructors/Program Office

Discussion of Results and Changes

Learning Outcome 1: Demonstrate the ability to engage in perspective-taking.

Results and Changes (listed by year – from 2005 to present):

Learning Outcome 2: Integrate knowledge and modes of thinking drawn from two or more disciplines.

Results and Changes (listed by year – from 2005 to present):

Learning Outcome 3: Produce an interdisciplinary understanding of a complex problem or intellectual question

Results and Changes (listed by year – from 2005 to present):

Learning Outcome 4: Engage in experiential learning in prospective career or academic field by serving effectively in a semester long internship.

Results and Changes (listed by year – from 2005 to present):

Learning Outcome 5: Demonstrate advanced critical thinking skills at levels required for effective performance in professional and other social or cultural contexts.

Results and Changes (listed by year – from 2005 to present):

Learning Outcome 6: Demonstrate advanced communication skills (written, spoken, computer-assisted) at levels required for effective performance in professional and other social or cultural contexts.

Results and Changes (listed by year – from 2005 to present):