

**Assessment Report/ Department of Afro-American Studies**

Update 2009

The assessment procedures for the Department of Afro-American Studies center on an annual survey of majors enrolled in upper division courses. The input received from these surveys led directly to a significant reshaping of the Department's undergraduate major and course offerings. While our students expressed a high degree of satisfaction with the content of their courses, they also expressed concern, and at times frustration, with the fact that they were regularly forced to substitute courses in order to fulfill major requirements. Taking a close look at their concerns, and aware of changes in our faculty roster, the Department decided to eliminate one of the major concentrations, the Society Area. Folding the Society area into our History area has allowed us to develop a new set of requirements which will be much easier for students to meet. In addition, numerous students expressed a desire for a new concentration in the area of Black Women's Studies. We have now established that concentration and the early indications are that it will be a foundation of our undergraduate curriculum.