

L&S ASSESSMENT REPORT SURVEY 2012-2013

This survey may be completed online, by going to:
https://uwmadison.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_1KPP5NTbU2acZ6t

Introduction

Dear L&S chairs, directors, faculty, and academic program staff:

Annual assessment reports are due to the college by May 15, 2013.

By completing the survey that follows, you will be submitting your annual report on the assessment of student learning. These reports are needed so UW-Madison can comply with Regent and Federal regulations that require the university to systematically perform this work for all academic programs that lead to a credential (degree, major, and certificate). Your responses will be used to create the L&S Annual Report to the Provost on the Assessment of Student Learning. The college report to the Provost must contain a response for every L&S credential. As you know, this is a huge task - your help is essential.

The following links offer some background on Assessment of Student Learning, from the college assessment plan to some simple "how to" guides. (Some of the survey questions below also provide links to relevant resources.)

- L&S Assessment Plan: <https://kb.wisc.edu/lis/page.php?id=25259>
- L&S Department and Program Plans and Reports: <https://kb.wisc.edu/lis/page.php?id=23837>
- L&S Plan and Report content guidelines / templates: <https://kb.wisc.edu/lis/page.php?id=25242>
- Assessment Tips and Terms: <https://kb.wisc.edu/lis/page.php?id=25287>

This is the first time we are trying to gather this information by asking you to complete an online survey. Because reports are due May 15, 2013, the survey will be open during the Spring 2013 term. This survey has been designed to allow you to start, stop, and revise responses as long as you do so on the same computer where you started the survey, using the original link you were sent to begin the survey, and if you click "next" (which saves your information) before closing the survey. (If this gives you trouble, contact Elaine.) As an alternative to responding online, we will also make the survey available as an MS Word document that can be emailed to us.

If your program provides a formal report on assessment to a professional organization, accrediting agency, board of visitors, or other group, you may share that report as part of your response. Please contact Elaine Klein, the L&S Assistant Dean for Academic Planning (emklein@ls.wisc.edu) to discuss these options. (We will need responses for any programs that are not covered by these reports.)

Finally, we hope to share and use this information across the college, to encourage departments and programs to learn from each other, develop collaborations, and improve practices and learning. You may also notice that the information you provide here will be requested by other entities - the L&S Academic Planning Council, Curriculum Committee, and other groups in the college refer to assessment activities when discussing program reviews, requests for changes to courses and curricula, requests for departmental reconfiguration, calls for proposals for new projects, etc. Understanding how, and how well, our students are performing in our programs is essential to the work we do. The responses you provide will help us know if we're headed in the right direction.

Again, thank you for your response.

Gary Sandefur, Dean, College of Letters & Science
Elaine M. Klein, Assistant Dean for Academic Planning

Contact Information

Q2.1. If we have questions about the responses provided, it would be useful to be able to discuss them with you. Whom should we contact?

ELIZABETH COVINGTON

Q2.2. Address

**213 INGRAHAM HALL
1155 OBSERVATORY DRIVE**

Q2.3. e-mail contact

eecovington@wisc.edu

Q2.4. Telephone

608 265 4778

Program Information Validation

Q3.1. List all of the academic programs this response addresses. Remember to include undergraduate and graduate levels, as well as certificate programs. For your convenience, we provide here links to the lists of approved UW-Madison programs.

- Majors, options and degrees: http://registrar.wisc.edu/documents/85_Majors_Options_Degrees.pdf
- Certificates: http://registrar.wisc.edu/documents/85_Official_Certificates.pdf

**356 Certificate in European Studies at the Graduate Level G L&S
355 Certificate in European Studies at the Undergraduate Level U L&S**

Q3.2. Are the names and levels of the programs, as you understand them, consistent with the official lists?

- Yes**
- No
- Academic program not listed
- Academic program should not be listed

Q3.3. If an academic program name needs to be updated, you may need to request a change to make the working name consistent with the official name. This will require approval by the department/program, the L&S Academic Planning Council, and the University Academic Planning Council. If you think you would like to change an academic program name, please contact your associate dean and the Assistant Dean for Academic Planning, Elaine M. Klein (emklein@ls.wisc.edu).

- Information on changing program names: <https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=20052>

Should we let Elaine know you'll be contacting her about this?

- Yes
- No**

Q3.4. If an academic program isn't listed, and if it should be formally recognized by the university, the department/program needs to seek approval through the College and University Academic Planning Councils. Please alert your department chair and associate dean that you wish to begin this process. If you have questions, contact the L&S Assistant Dean for Academic Planning, Elaine Klein (emklein@ls.wisc.edu).

- For Information on creating new academic programs: <https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=20049>

Should we let Elaine know you'll be contacting her about this?

- Yes
- No**

Q3.5. If you have an academic program that should not be listed in these official documents (because the faculty have closed or suspended it), that action must be formally approved and implemented by the university. The department/program needs to seek approval through the L&S and University Academic Planning Councils.

Please alert your department chair and associate dean as soon as possible that you wish to begin this process. If you have questions, contact the L&S Assistant Dean for Academic Planning, Elaine Klein (emklein@ls.wisc.edu).

- For Information on suspending or discontinuing academic programs: <https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=23316>

Should we let Elaine know you'll be contacting her about this?

- Yes
- No**

Assessment Plan

Q4.1. Please review the assessment plan on file for your program(s).

- L&S Department and Program Assessment Plans: <https://kb.wisc.edu/ls/page.php?id=23837>

Is it current?

- Yes
- No**

We do not currently have an assessment plan on file. The Center for European Studies does undergo regular assessment through Title VI applications (most recently in 2010 for the 2010-14 Title VI grant) and bi-annual Title VI reporting (October and April), also through site visit reviews and feasibility studies. CES also participated in a major alumni survey conducted in 2011-12 as part of the Standardized Wisconsin Evaluation Plan for Title VI (SWEPT) prepared for and submitted to UW's International Institute and Title-VI Funded National Resource Centers by Theodore P. Gerber Professor of Sociology and Director of the Title VI Evaluation for the International Institute. The Survey report was published in March 2012.

Q4.2. If the plan on file is not current, and if you have a current plan, please send a copy to Elaine Klein (emklein@ls.wisc.edu).

If the plan on file is not current, and you need to update your plan, please provide a statement below explaining your plans to undertake that work. Your updated plan should be sent to the Dean (c/o Elaine Klein) by June 30, 2013. (Please contact Elaine if you need to discuss an alternative deadline.)

The Center for European Studies – in consultation with affiliated faculty – will be preparing a new assessment plan addressing student learning outcomes etc...

You may find the following documents useful as you undertake this work:

- L&S Plan and Report content guidelines / templates: <https://kb.wisc.edu/lr/page.php?id=25242>
- Assessment Tips and Terms: <https://kb.wisc.edu/lr/page.php?id=25287>
- L&S Department and Program Plans and Reports: <https://kb.wisc.edu/lr/page.php?id=23837>
- L&S Assessment Plan: <https://kb.wisc.edu/lr/page.php?id=25259>

Q4.3. Do you have other programs on which you can provide an assessment report? (Please understand that we must provide some report on every academic program and credential we offer.)

- Yes**
- Nope, I'm done here.

CES has undergone several program assessments in recent years. The SWEPT survey (2012, see above Q4.1) included 189 European Studies alumni respondents. A recent survey of all Certificate Alumni (1000 + former students) has just been completed and is intended primarily as part of a feasibility study for future graduate level offerings (Results are pending). European Studies has also been assessed by external reviewers on several occasions (most recently 2009) as part of the European Union Center of Excellence review.

Recent Assessment Activity

Q5.1.Assessment Purpose. Please describe the purpose of the assessment activity (e.g., to conduct a curricular or program review, to assess learning across a sequence of courses, to solve a problem with student performance, to honor MIU or other obligations, etc.)

SWEPT – Program review 2012

Certificate Student Alumni Survey 2013 – feasibility study

EUCE Review (2009) – program review – site visit.

EUCE National review (2011) – program review as part of a larger survey of all 10 EUCEs nationwide – site visit

Q5.2. Learning Outcomes or Goals Assessed. Referring to the list of student learning objectives/goals expressed in the program assessment plan, please identify the learning outcome(s) that were the focus of the assessment activity: what did you study about what you want students to know, value and/or do?

While CES does not yet have an assessment plan of the type requested, the SWEPT survey gave valuable information on how former students viewed the Center's involvement with students, and the support these students received in developing their interests in Europe. Useful data was also gained from the survey about issues related to the visibility of the Center on campus, student awareness of CES programming and the Certificate, and the level of staff and faculty support given to students.

EUCE Review 2009 – site visit included targeted questions aimed at current undergraduate and graduate students and the extent to which European Studies supported students' intellectual development.

EUCE National Review (2011) – site visit included questions aimed at current undergraduate and graduate students and the extent to which European Studies supported students' intellectual development.

Q5.3. Assessment Strategy. Please describe your most recent assessment project. What did you do to try to better understand student learning across this program, in the context of the learning goal discussed in your response above? Feel free to describe the tools, strategies, methods, and analysis used (e.g., graduating student

surveys, standardized tests, grades on embedded questions on exams, alumni surveys, focus groups or interviews, evaluation of student work on papers, portfolios, capstone assignments, etc.)

SWEPT program review – alumni survey

Alumni survey

EUCE review 2009 – focus groups and interviews (undergraduates and graduates, and other stakeholders)

EUCE National Review 2011 – focus groups and interviews (undergraduates and graduates, and other stakeholders)

Q5.4. Key Findings and Impact. Please summarize the key findings (evidence/results) and how the department or program plans to use this information (e.g., no curricular changes, program enhancements, program redesign, etc.). This may include to whom results were reported to effect change (if needed), whether the results suggested other areas of inquiry, plans for continued attention to assessment (including "tweaking" the assessment plan), and/or deadlines for achieving milestones related to the above activities.

Key findings as related to undergraduate and graduate students can be summarized by survey responses from the SWEPT comments field. Results indicate that CES needs to find new ways to increase its visibility on campus – especially among undergraduate students with related interests, and then develop strategies to encourage students to declare the Certificate earlier on in their academic careers. While Certificate enhancements/redesign may not be needed (the Certificate is robust requiring 21 credits of area studies courses, demonstration of interdisciplinarity, breadth and depth of knowledge of Europe and European countries, and competency in at least one European language), greater emphasis needs to be placed on bringing students into European Studies earlier – both to declare the Certificate and then through the listserve to be more aware of the wide variety of European on-campus events, and to take advantage of opportunities and support offered to students through CES.

ID 11224 VAR comments

I am grateful for the European Studies program. Almost all of the electives I chose to take while at Madison fit within the European Studies curriculum. Even though I don't use my language skills or knowledge of Europe at my current job, I still wouldn't trade my experience at UW for anything.

ID11564 VAR comments

My main reason for getting a European Studies Certificate was because I was only one class away to obtain the certificate and it made my degree look more impressive

ID 10541 VAR comments

Csanád Z. Siklós, the Assistant Director and Outreach Specialist at the European Studies Alliance and center for European Studies is probably the single most valuable asset that center has in my estimation. He is an EXCELLENT employee, advisor, and scholar.

ID 10984 VAR comments

The Center for European Studies was critical to my successes to helping me earn my M.A. and my Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The FLAS funding I received helped me then on a daily basis and does so now. I teach the language (Swedish) and use the languages (Swedish and Finnish) on a daily basis both in and out of the classroom. I would not be where I am today without the help of the Center and its resources.

ID 11330 VAR comments

I worry my answers about employment will skew your data -- I'm still a grad student at Madison, but working part-time as an adjunct elsewhere, not teaching my area of specialty (which my time with the center for European studies DID help immensely with)

ID 11341 VAR comments

Thank you UW Center for European Studies!

ID 11351 VAR comments

I studied abroad in Brussels, Belgium for a semester but that may not have been part of the Center of European Studies.

ID 11718 VAR comments

During my time at the UW, I studied abroad three times – as undergrad, as a law student, and while in PhD studies. These experiences, as well as the support that I received from the European Center, the EU Center of Excellence, and CREECA, have been tremendously beneficial to me as a person and now as a Foreign Service Officer working for the U.S. Department of State. Funding for international studies and foreign language programs is critical. While at the UW, my time studying abroad provided a greater and more worldly education than anything that I could have learned in the classroom. Finally, Go Badgers!!

ID 12784 VAR comments

As a French major as an undergrad and a French graduate certificate recipient, I heard very little about the Center for European Studies. I attended a few movies or lectures over the years, otherwise I knew little about what the center was and what it offered. Considering that I spent 6 years in French classes (some of which were on the Center for European Studies course list), that is concerning. They clearly need to do a better job at public outreach in their classes, market themselves better in other foreign language classes not in their list to attract students to participate in their program. I would have liked to do more with them and applied for some of their offerings had I known what they did and what they offered to students.

ID 13169 VAR comments

Thank you again to the Center for European Studies for their generous support and helpfulness. I have also so much enjoyed going to events like Africa at Noon and other lecture series. I have felt so lucky to study at a university with such an impressive array of cultural offerings. Going to lectures, professional development events and cultural offerings have been a wonderful supplement to my education here.

The Future

Q6.1. Please let us know what your next steps for assessing student learning will be.

Next steps will be detailed in the new assessment plan currently in development.

Thank you!

Please email this document to emklein@ls.wisc.edu.

If you prefer, hard copies may be sent to Elaine Klein, Rm 307D South Hall

We'll be in touch if we have any additional questions.