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Course Outcomes Guide
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Directions: Please complete this form to document your progress toward improving student learning. For each item, indicate your progress and your anticipated next steps. Thank you!

Course/Program Title: HIS 202 – United States History II   **Date:** September 2014

Course/Program Team: Timothy Jenness and Lore Kuehnert

Expected Learning Outcomes
1. Evaluate and utilize primary and secondary source material to write a research paper that makes a clear historical argument.
2. Recognize important trends and themes in United States history and demonstrate the connection between historical foundations and current events.
3. Recognize the ways in which the broadening of American democratic traditions reflects citizens' tolerance of diversity.

Assessment (How do or will students demonstrate achievement of each outcome? Please attach a copy of your assessment electronically.)
A common assessment was piloted during the Fall Semester of 2013. Comprised of several primary source reading selections and ten multiple choice questions, the assessment requires students to evaluate and analyze the sources' content as well as select trends and themes common to several or all of the passages. Students are administered the assessment at the beginning of the semester and then again at the end of the semester to determine the degree to which they have achieved the desired outcomes. At least 70% of students should be able to achieve a minimum score of seven on the assessment after completing the course.

Validation (What methods have you used or will you use to validate your assessment?)
Internal validation will include an analysis of the data collected and comparisons between the assessment data and the outcomes of other types of exercises assigned in this course.

Results (What do your assessment data show? If you have not yet assessed student achievement of your learning outcomes, when is assessment planned?)
Assessment data for the academic year 2013-2014 is summarized below:

	Pre-Test	**Post-Test**
Fall 2013		
Average score (1 section/6 students)	6.00	6.67
% of students achieving a score of 7+	33.3%	50%
Spring 2014		
Average score (1 section/6 students)	6.83	7.00
% of students achieving a score of 7+	66.6%	50%

The data show that students did not achieve the desired benchmark score during the Fall 2013 semester even though the post-test reflected a slight improvement overall. During the Spring 2014 semester, however, the minimum score was achieved although there was a drop in the number of students who earned a "7" or higher. This can be explained by the fact that the class/sample size in both semesters was smaller than normal thereby creating a situation in which the performance of one student had a statistically disproportionate influence on the overall class score.

Follow-up (How have you used or how will you use the data to improve student learning?)
The data will be reviewed on an annual basis to determine the effectiveness of current course assignments. Long-term decreases or increases in aggregate scores will be analyzed to determine if any changes in the course are necessary.

Budget Justification (What resources are necessary to improve student learning?)
Resources appear adequate at this time.