2022 ANNUAL ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT REPORT FORM
(Due October 15 to the dean)

The Faculty Senate Academic Assessment Committee (AAC) is committed to a vision of assessment that leads to continuous program improvements and benefits students. Annual assessment reporting informs decision making and resource allocation aimed at improving student learning and success. It also enables the AAC to analyze assessment across the institution and to respond to UA System, Board of Regents, legislative, and Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) requests. We thank you for your continued support of and participation in this annual activity.

Starting in Spring 2021, UAA moved to one academic assessment reporting mechanism. The below form merges and streamlines the former Annual Academic Assessment Survey and the Annual Academic Assessment Report. It also incorporates questions about how academic programs contribute to student achievement of institutional core competencies and to student success.

This annual report will be due to the dean on October 15. Programs with suspended admissions and new programs in the first year of implementation are not required to complete this form.

These reports are public documents and will be posted on the assessment website. Responses are to be narrative only, and must be ADA- and FERPA-compliant. Do not embed any links, including to webpages or other documents. To be FERPA-compliant, do not include the names of any current or former students. Rather, use statements such as, "In AY22 four program graduates were accepted to graduate programs in the field." Programs with specialized accreditation or other external recognitions must comply with restrictions regarding what can be published, as per the accreditor or external organization. Do not include appendices. Appendices to this form will not be accepted.

The form uses narrative, text, and drop-down boxes. Narrative boxes have a character limit, which includes spaces. When using text and drop-down boxes, if you want to undo an answer, press "Control-Z" or "Command-Z."

Note: To ensure the fillable fields function correctly, the form must be completed in Microsoft Word. It will not function properly in Google Docs. Programs that wish to record collaborative discussion of the report might consider creating a separate document to take notes, before entering final responses in the official fillable form.

For technical assistance with this form, email Academic Affairs (uaa.oaa@alaska.edu).

PROGRAM SECTION (Due to the dean on October 15)

After completing the Program Section, the program should email this form to the dean, with a copy to the appropriate community campus director(s) if the program is delivered on a community campus.

Submission date: 10/7/2022

Submitted by: Songho Ha, Professor of History, sha4@alaska.edu

Program(s) covered in this report: History BA
(Programs with suspended admissions and new programs in the first year of implementation are not required to complete this form.)

    If you selected "Other" above, please identify. *(100 characters or less)*

College: College of Arts and Sciences

Campuses where the program(s) is delivered: ☒**Anchorage** ☐**KOD** ☐**KPC** ☐**MSC** ☐**PWSC**

Specialized accrediting agency (if applicable): Select Specialized Accrediting Agency or N/A.
  If explanation is necessary, such as only some of the certificates and degrees are covered by the specialized accreditation, briefly describe: N/A

INSTITUTIONAL STUDENT LEARNING CORE COMPETENCIES

In 2020, UAA launched a consensus-based, deliberative process to identify the key skillsets that help students achieve academic and post-graduation success. After a year-long process that included students, faculty, staff, administrators, alumni, and employers, the UAA community identified four core competencies at the heart of a quality UAA education. Students develop mastery of these competencies through curricular (e.g., courses), co-curricular (e.g., internships, conferences), and extra-curricular (e.g., student clubs) learning experiences.

After the stakeholder-based process in AY20, UAA is phasing in the integration of the core competencies into ongoing processes, including program student learning outcomes assessment. Personal, Professional, and Community Responsibility (PPCR) was integrated into the AY21 Annual Academic Assessment Report. The AY22 Annual Academic Assessment Report now also integrates Effective Communication.

Question #1 below is designed to engage program faculty in thinking about how they can or already do promote student learning in these two core competencies.

1. **A.** *Personal, Professional, and Community Responsibility: The knowledge and skills necessary to promote personal flourishing, professional excellence, and community engagement.*

   - **If last year you provided your program's current or planned example of an intentionally designed course, assignment, or activity that develops and showcases the student learning in this core competency, please discuss that implementation and any observations you have regarding how well it is working.** *(500 characters or less)*
   Last year, the History program showcased the HIST A495: History Internship, which has been offered since AY17. In AY22, History interns worked in a number of internships that resulted in the development of students' "personal, professional, and community responsibility." Internship projects included interviewing Alaska Native elders and assisting in the Archives and Special Collections section of the Consortium Library. A student was also placed with the Alaska Office of History and Archeology.

   - **If last year you *did not* identify a current or planned example of an intentionally designed course, assignment, or activity that provides students the opportunity to develop and showcase this core competency, please identify one now.** *(500 characters or less)*
   N/A

   B. *Effective Communication: The knowledge and skills necessary to engage in effective communication in diverse contexts and formats.*

   - **What would you hope a student would say if asked where in your program or support service they had the opportunity to develop proficiency in this core competency?** *(500 characters or less)*
   The student would say that the History program offers ample opportunities to develop "the knowledge and skills necessary to engage in effective communication." One of the PSLOs of the History program is to "Demonstrate the ability to write in clear and precise English." The program's faculty members offer many opportunities to develop the knowledge and skills to write, speak, and present effectively in diverse contexts and formats.

   - **Provide your program's current or planned example(s) of an intentionally designed course, assignment, or activity that showcases the student learning in this core competency.** *(500 characters or less)*
   All History courses emphasize this Core Competency. All History exams are formatted as essay questions; in addition, a number of short or long papers are required to successfully complete the courses. Students are often required to deliver oral presentations on their research projects. In online courses, History faculty members also use various tools that develop effective communication, including Wikis, blogs, Zoom Meetings, Discussion Board, Media Gallery, Google Docs, and Podcasts.

PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

2. **Please list the Program Student Learning Outcomes your program assessed in AY22. For each outcome, indicate one of the following: Exceeded faculty expectations, Met faculty expectations, or Did not meet faculty expectations.**

    Example: Communicate effectively in a variety of contexts and formats – Exceeded faculty expectations.

    1. Demonstrate the ability to write in clear and precise English - Met faculty expectations.
    2. Demonstrate advanced-level historical research skills (proper use of historical citation style, critical use of primary and secondary sources, adequate research base, ability to frame a good historical question) - Met faculty expectations.
    3. Demonstrate advanced historical skills (recognition of significance, cause and effect, continuity v. discontinuity, historiographical conversancy and perspective, critical and integrative thinking) - Met faculty expectations.

3. **Describe your assessment process in AY22 for these Program Student Learning Outcomes, including the collection of data, analysis of data, and faculty (and other, e.g., advisory board) conversations around the findings.** *(750 characters or less)*

    The Assessment Coordinator collected assessment data from History faculty members in September 2022. Each faculty member was provided with the History Department Course Assessment Form. All full-time faculty members from the Goose Lake campus and one full-time faculty member from each of the Mat-Su and KPC campuses also provided and analyzed assessment data and offered concrete suggestions for improvement. A total of 3 upper-level and 5 lower-level courses/sections, with 177 enrolled students, were analyzed. History faculty members also held a number of discussions related to assessment, both face to face and online.

4. **What are the findings and what do they tell the faculty about student learning in your program?** *(750 characters or less)*

    The majority of History students meet the PSLOs in both lower- and upper-level courses. A or B grades were earned by 73% of students in lower-level courses and 87% of students in upper-level courses. In addition, A or B grades were earned by 86% of students in the Junior Seminar (HIST A377) and 92% of students in the Senior Seminar (HIST A477). Overall, students continue to improve their learning throughout the program. They produce high-quality results in their program's capstone courses (A377 and A477) after rigorous training throughout the program. Following the general pattern at UAA and CAS, student credit hours have declined; however, the number of History majors increased slightly to 66 in Spring AY22 (from 63 in Spring AY21).

5. **Based on the findings, did the faculty make any recommendations for changes to improve student achievement of the Program Student Learning Outcomes? Please describe the recommended action, what improvement in student learning the program hopes to see with this change, the proposed timeline, and how the program will know if the change has worked. If no recommendations for changes were made, please explain that decision.** *(750 Characters or less)*

The History faculty made the following recommendation: Actively tap into the resources of the Anchorage School District (ASD) for student recruitment and retention. Thus, in Fall 2022, the History Department partnered with South Anchorage High School (SAHS) to offer dual enrollment courses through a broader partnership between UAA and the ASD. SAHS offers a Civic Leadership Pathway for students interested in civic participation and leadership with an emphasis on seminar, inquiry, and project-based learning, and the potential to earn college credit through UAA. The History Department is proud to take a lead in developing content, programmatic assistance, and leadership for SAHS. We plan to expand our work in the ASD in the years to come.

PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS AND ASSESSING IMPACT ON STUDENT LEARNING

6. **In the past academic year, how did your program use the results of previous assessment cycles to make changes intended to improve student achievement of the Program Student Learning Outcomes? Please check all that apply.**

☒Course curriculum changes

☐Course prerequisite changes

☒Changes in teaching methods

☐Changes in advising

☐Degree requirement changes

☐Degree course sequencing

☐Course enrollment changes (e.g., course capacity, grading structure [pass/fail, A-F])

☐Changes in program policies/procedures

☐Changes to Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs)

☒College-wide initiatives (e.g., High-Impact Practices)

☐Faculty, staff, student development

☒Other

☐No changes were implemented in AY22.

If you checked "Other" above, please describe. *(100 characters or less)*

Dual Enrollment Program in partnership with South Anchorage High School starting in Fall 2022

7. **Do you have any information about how well these or other past improvements are working? Are they achieving their intended goals? Please include any data or assessment results that help you demonstrate this.** *(750 characters or less)*

1. As discussed above, starting in Fall 2022, the History Department partnered with South

Anchorage High School (SAHS) to offer dual enrollment courses through a broader partnership between UAA and the Anchorage School District. Although the new initiative started in Fall 2022, all discussions and preparations took place in AY22.

2. One faculty member received a Consortium Library Affordable Course Materials Award in AY22.

3. The History Department took on a greater role in the development and facilitation of National History Day

4. The History Department deepened its relationship with Alaska Office of History and Archaeology, as well as the Anchorage Museum. Both have agreed to continue to host History interns.

STUDENT SUCCESS AND THE CLOSING OF EQUITY GAPS

Student success depends on many aspects of a student's experience. On the academic program level, it can relate to correct placement, course sequencing, standardized pre-requisites across sets of courses, the intentional use of high-impact practices, proactive advising, course scheduling practices, etc.

UAA has selected the below metrics as student success metrics for accreditation.

In response to faculty questions and concerns about reporting on these data without more discussion and training, we will spend AY23 exploring together what equity data are and are not, how they can be used responsibly, and what programs can do to close equity gaps in student achievement on the below metrics, as well as to improve overall student achievement on them. UAA has a team participating in the NWCCU Data Equity Fellowship, and that team will help to guide these conversations.

8. **PROGRAMS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO RESPOND TO QUESTION #8 FOR THEIR REPORT DUE ON OCTOBER 15, 2022. IT IS HERE JUST FOR THEIR REFERENCE.** Describe the actions your program is taking to improve student achievement on one or more of the following metrics. Also, describe any resulting improvements in student learning.

Metric	Definition	Rationale
UNDERGRADUATE COURSE PASS RATES BY COURSE LEVEL (Undergraduate lower-division, undergraduate upper-division).	The percentage of students who receive a passing grade (A, B, C, P) for all undergraduate students in a course offered by a program compared to the same rate calculated for all courses at that level. Based on a 5-year trend. Included in the denominator for undergraduate courses are the grades D, F, W, I, NP, NB. *Data source: RPTP end-of-term freeze files. Disaggregate as per accreditation.*	Low pass rates are one critical way to identify courses that are barriers to student success and degree completion. Failing key courses correlates with low retention and more major switching. Mitigation strategies can be internal or external to the course itself, including, among other things, the use of high-impact pedagogical practices, appropriate placement, course sequencing, tutoring, and other means to ensure student success within a particular course. This metric and the

Metric	Definition	Rationale
		disaggregation of the data can inform planning, decision making, and the allocation of resources to programs and services designed to mitigate gaps in achievement and equity.
ANNUAL RETENTION 1ST TO 2ND FALL	Traditional measure of the % of first-time, full-time associate and baccalaureate degree-seeking freshmen who enter in a given fall term and return the following fall. *Data source: UA System Warehouse RPTP/DEDMGR end-of-term freeze files. Disaggregate as per accreditation on an annual basis.*	Following the student from the 1st fall to 2nd fall can indicate ongoing connections and support inside and outside of the classroom are motivating students to return to continue their studies at the institution. Continuing enrollment is a key factor in completion.
SEMESTERS TO DEGREE – GRADUATE PROGRAMS	The average number of semesters taken by students to complete any graduate degree or graduate certificate program. Determined by students who have graduated from a graduate program as their primary degree. 5-year trend. *Data source: UA System Warehouse RPTP/DEDMGR end-of-term freeze files. Disaggregate as per accreditation on an annual basis.*	Looking at the number of semesters graduate students take to complete their degrees illustrates how students progress through their degree programs (full-time, part-time, stop-out). This information on student behavior and completion can inform program structure and help the institution support students in a way that honors the time needed for rigorous intellectual engagement and growth and also ensures that students can complete in a timely manner.

9. **Do you have any examples of post-graduate success you want to highlight? For example, major scholarships, the percent of students who pass licensure examinations, the percent of students accepted to graduate programs, the percent in post-graduation employment in the field or a related field.** *(750 characters or less)*

In AY22, two UAA History graduates completed MA theses, two were accepted to a Master's program at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, one was accepted into Georgetown Law School, another was accepted into Syracuse College of Law, and a History minor student was accepted into Case Western Reserve University Law School. Also, a History graduate secured a position as an historian and museum technician at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library. A History major was promoted as lead archivist and curator of the Ted Stevens Papers, Alaska's longest serving senator. History graduates have taken jobs as educators in the Anchorage School District, the MatSu School District, and in Kenai Borough.

UAA Academic Affairs
UNIVERSITY *of* ALASKA ANCHORAGE

DEAN SECTION (Due to the program on January 15)

After completing the Dean Section and signing it, the dean should email this form to the program, and copy uaa_oaa@alaska.edu for posting. If the program is delivered on one or more community campus, the dean should consult with the appropriate community campus director(s) on the response and copy the appropriate community campus director(s) when emailing the response to the program.

1. **Based on the program's responses above, what guidance and support do you have for the program moving forward?** *(750 characters or less)*
   The Department has taken the lead in promoting dual enrollment courses with ASD in which students are engaged with UAA faculty. The Department is encouraged to continue its outreach efforts and to develop a pathway for these HS students to transition to UAA that builds on their experiences and course completion.

2. **What is the program doing particularly well in terms of its processes for the assessment and improvement of student learning, for example, the achievement of the Program Student Learning Outcomes, the closing of equity gaps, or addressing the core competencies?** *(750 characters or less)*
   The program does well in documenting student attainment of the goals and objectives as stated in the PSLOs as well as in broadly assessing student achievement at all levels, including 3 upper-level and 5 lower-level courses. The History Internship, HIST 495, provides an excellent framework from which to enhance the student outcome as it refers to "personal, professional, and community responsibility."

Dean's signature: *Jenny McNulty*   **Date:** 1/9/2023