

Lake Superior State University
General Education Assessment Report
Social Science Outcome
Fall 2018

General Education Social Science Outcome: Students will be able to think critically and analytically about the causes and consequences of human behavior.

Social Science Sub-Committee Members: Eric Statt (Assistant Professor of Kinesiology), Mindy McCready (Assistant Professor of Accounting), Katelyn Smith (Political Science & Business Student)

Sub-Committee Findings: The Social Science Sub-Committee members met during October 2018 to review how the LSSU general education social science courses that were offered during the spring 2018 semester were assessed using reports generated from Nuventive Improve. The members considered whether the required common rubric was used and whether the assessment procedure, criteria, results and use of results were entered for the general education outcome. The findings for each course are summarized below.

BUSN121 – Introduction to Business: The common rubric was used and the required assessment information was entered.

ECON201 – Principles of Macroeconomics: The common rubric was used and the assessment procedure and results were entered. However, the assessment criteria (target) and use of results were missing.

ECON202 – Principles of Microeconomics: The common rubric was used and the assessment procedure and results were entered. However, the assessment criteria (target) and use of results were missing.

ECON302 – Managerial Economics: The common rubric was used and the assessment procedure and results were entered. However, the assessment criteria (target) and use of results were missing.

HIST102 – History of World Civilization II: No assessment information was entered.

HIST132 – United States History II: The required assessment information was entered. However, the common rubric was not used.

POLI110 – Introduction to American Government and Politics: The common rubric was used and the assessment procedure, criteria and results were entered. However, the use of results was missing.

PSYC101 – Introduction to Psychology: No assessment information was entered.

PSYC155 – Lifespan Development: The common rubric was used and the assessment procedure, criteria and results were entered. However, the use of results was missing.

SOCY101 – Introduction to Sociology: The common rubric was used and the assessment procedure, criteria and results were entered. However, the use of results was missing.

The following courses that meet the LSSU General Education Social Science outcome are currently being offered during the fall 2018 semester:

BUSN121 – Introduction to Business
ECON201 – Principles of Macroeconomics
ECON202 – Principles of Microeconomics
GEOG201 – World Regional Geography
HIST131 – United States History I
POLI110 – Introduction to American Government and Politics
POLI241 – Introduction to International Relations
PSYC101 – Introduction to Psychology
PSYC155 – Lifespan Development
SOCY101 – Introduction to Sociology
SOCY 113 – Sociology of the American Family

Sub-Committee Observations and Recommendations: While the instructors of several social science courses used the common rubric and entered assessment information into Nuventive Improve, this was not done in a consistent manner. The lack of standardization and missing information make it difficult to aggregate data and conclude whether LSSU students are meeting the general education outcome. The committee recommends that a standardized procedure be adopted that details what assessment data should be collected and how it should be entered in Nuventive Improve before the end of the fall 2018 semester. The committee members are willing to create such a standardized reporting process and work with the instructors of the social science courses with help from the College Deans and School Chairs to ensure implementation.