

Core Competencies Assessment 2009-2010: Area IV Courses

(Mesalands Community College)
 (Anthropology 201: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology)

Social and Behavioral Sciences Competencies
 (Place New Mexico Common Core Number here)

<u>State Competencies</u> (Learning Outcomes Being Measured)	<u>Assessment Procedures</u> (Process/Instrument named or described – rubric attached)	<u>Assessment Results</u>	<u>How Results Will Be Used To Make Improvements</u>	<u>(Optional)</u> Recommendations/Goals/ Priorities
<p>1. Students will identify, describe and explain human behaviors and how they are influenced by social structures, institutions, and processes within the contexts of complex and diverse communities. Students should: Develop an understanding of self and the world by examining content and processes used by social and behavioral sciences to discover, describe, explain, and predict human behaviors and social systems.</p>	<p>Students did a book report on an Ethnography concerning the Apache Girl's rite of passage which allowed them to understand how this rite developed and how it exists in the context of current society.</p>	<p>The Ethnography was the best received assignment and most of the students did very well with the average mark being a little better than a B.</p>	<p>Given the information I received in the reports I think that a comparison with another ethnography will lead to better understandings of the definition of an ethnography and its uses to social scientists.</p>	
<p>2. Students will articulate how beliefs, assumptions, and values are influenced by factors such as politics, geography, economics, culture, biology, history, and social institutions. Students should: Enhance knowledge of social and cultural institutions and the values of their society and other societies and cultures in the world.</p> <p align="center">(Continued)</p>	<p>Students did a midterm exam which asked them to answer questions in paragraph form which demonstrated how our societal architecture is influenced by the factors of politics, culture, history, geography and other social constructs.</p>	<p>The midterm had mixed results with some students doing very well and getting A grades while others came in with only a C grade.</p>	<p>The questions that the students did not do well on varied considerably, so there was not one area that all the students had problems with. Maybe eliciting more discussion on weekly chapters will be a better way to ensure understanding.</p>	

Core Competencies Assessment 2009-2010: Area IV Courses, cont.

(Place University/College Name here)
 (Place University/College Course Number and Name here)

Social and Behavioral Sciences Competencies, cont.
 (Place New Mexico Common Core Number here)

<u>State Competencies</u> (Learning Outcomes Being Measured)	<u>Assessment Procedures</u> (Process/Instrument named or described – rubric attached)	<u>Assessment Results</u>	<u>How Results Will Be Used To Make Improvements</u>	<u>(Optional)</u> Recommendations/Goals/Priorities
<p>3. Students will describe ongoing reciprocal interactions among self, society, and the environment. Students should: Understand the interdependent nature of the individual, family/social group, and society in shaping human behavior and determining quality of life.</p>	<p>Students addressed the reciprocal interactions between self, society and environment through the weekly discussion questions that were assigned.</p>	<p>All students did well on weekly discussion questions. They liked being able to read information and share with the class their opinions about it. All students got A grades.</p>	<p>I do not think there would be any way to improve this competency other than to assign more reading to elicit more response.</p>	
<p>4. Students will apply the knowledge base of the social and behavioral sciences to identify, describe, explain, and critically evaluate relevant issues, ethical dilemmas, and arguments. – Students should: Articulate their role in a global context and develop an awareness and appreciation for diverse value systems in order to understand how to be good citizens who can critically examine and work toward quality of life within a framework of understanding and justice.</p>	<p>The students’ knowledge of social sciences was applied in the final research paper where the students had to synthesize current research as well as draw their own conclusions from that research, about their given topic.</p>	<p>The final research paper had an average mark of B. All the papers were satisfactory. I think allowing the students to choose their own topic sparked interest in the research paper.</p>	<p>Starting the research for the paper earlier would be applicable. Talking about the final paper at the beginning of the semester would allow the students more time to think about their topic and research it.</p>	

End – Social/Behavioral Sciences