

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Summary

Film and Performing Arts, BA

University of Alaska Fairbanks College of Liberal Arts

AY 2018-19 and 2019-20

Submitted by: Carrie Baker, Professor, Department of Theatre & Film Chair

Contact Information: 474-7754, ccbaker@alaska.edu

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1. Assessment information collected

The Film & Performing Arts BA Assessment Plan, Rubrics, Pre/Post Tests, and Surveys are available at the following link:

<http://www.uaf.edu/provost/assessment-review/assessment/college-of-liberal-arts/>

I. Direct Assessment Tools:

A. Audition Workshop/ Portfolio Review/ Film Reel Review

Film and Performance Arts (FLPA) majors with the Theatre Concentration are evaluated each semester through FLPA F190, 191, 290, 291 Audition/ Portfolio Review; actors participate in Audition Workshop and designers/technicians participate in Portfolio Review. For the Audition Workshop, performance faculty use the Audition Rubric Form to score student audition technique and presentation. For Portfolio Review, design faculty use the Portfolio Review Scoring Rubric to evaluate student design portfolios and presentation. FLPA majors with the Film Concentration are evaluated annually through FLPA F298, 398, 498 Reel Review. Film faculty use the Film Reel Review Assessment Form to evaluate student presentations and demo reels. All evaluations from FLPA F190/191/290/291 and FLPA F289/389/489 are included in students' files in the department shared google drive.

Audition Workshop

Students are evaluated on a scale from 1 to 5 in five categories:

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Overall Performance
- 3) Vocal Skill
- 4) Physicality
- 5) Choice of Material Presented

Average scores out of five in categories 1 through 5:

Sem/Year	# of Students	Intro	Overall Performance	Vocals	Physical	Material
Fall 2018	6	4.2	4.3	4	4.2	4.2

Spring 2019	13	4.1	4.2	3.9	4.1	4.9
Fall 2019	8	4.3	3.8	4.1	4.4	4.9
Spring 2020	6	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	5.0

Portfolio Review

Students are evaluated on a scale from 1 to 10 in four categories:

- 1) First Impression
- 2) Presentation of Materials
- 3) Portfolio Display/Layout
- 4) Resume

Average scores out of ten in categories 1 through 4:

Sem/Year*	# of Student	First Impression	Presentation	Design/ Layout	Resume
Spring 2019	1	10	9	10	9

*For Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Theatre Concentration FLPA majors participated in Audition Workshop.

Reel Review

Students are evaluated on a scale from 1 to 10 in four categories:

- 1) First Impression
- 2) Presentation of Materials
- 3) Reel Presentation
- 4) Resume

Average scores out of ten in categories 1 through 4:

Sem*/ Year	# of Students	First Impression	Presentation	Reel	Resume
Spring 2019	23	7.9	7.4	7.5	7
Fall 2019	2	7.5	6.5	9	7.3
Spring 2020	7	8	7.6	7.1	6.3

*Only offered Spring semesters until Spring 2019, then offered every semester.

B. Class Content Pre/Post Tests

Pre/Post Class Assessment Tests evaluate students' knowledge prior to introductory level classes in FLPA core (FLPA F121 *Fundamentals of Acting*, FLPA F271 *Film Set Production I*, and FLPA F247 *Intro the Production Design*) at the beginning of each semester. The same test is administered at the end of the semester to evaluate students' knowledge at the end of the course.

Courses: # of Students / Avg. Pre Score / Avg. Post Score

Sem/ Year	Fundamentals of Acting			Film Production*			Intro to Production Design**		
	#	Pre	Post	#	Pre	Post	#	Pre	Post
Fall 2018	18	29%	90%	18	48%	63%			
Spring 2019							12	22%	80%
Fall 2019	18	40%	98%	12	43%	63%			
Spring 2020	18	23%	97%						

*Film Production is only offered in the Fall.

**Intro to Production Design was only offered Spring 19.

II. Indirect Assessment Tools:

A. Production Surveys

Each Theatre & Film UAF production has a post-production Mainstage or Film Production Survey filled out by all cast and crew involved in the production. Survey rates student opinion of experience working with production team, leadership and collaborative skills gained, and overall contribution to educational goals in degree program. Mainstage productions are directed by faculty and guest directors and designed by faculty, staff, and students as part of their design practicum.

Production:	<i>Dead Man's Cell Phone Spring 2019</i>	<i>Pink Violet Fall 2019</i>	<i>Pride & Prejudice Spring 2020*</i>
Student Survey Participants	9	5	6
Average Student Rating (1-10) of:			
Overall Experience	9.4	8.6	9.2
Rehearsal with Director	9.9	8.4	9.7
Collaborative Experience	9.4	8.4	9.7
Growth as an Artist	8.7	9	9.2
Contribution to your education	9	9	9.3

*Due to COVID-19 Production was postponed and data reflects student opinion of rehearsal process only.

2. Conclusions drawn from the information summarized above

Overall, students are succeeding within the program. Most students who participate in Audition Workshop, Portfolio Review, and Reel Review receive above average scores in all areas. Anecdotally, we have noticed that juniors and seniors perform at higher levels during these assessments, which is to be

expected since they have had more classes, more experience with Audition Workshop, Portfolio Review, Reel Review, and more opportunities to improve their skills.

Class content pre and post tests show that students retain, on average, more than 80% of the information they are tested on in all introductory FLPA courses. It does appear that more can be done to improve post test scores in Film Set Production I (please see curricular revision question below). Overall, students are clearly learning valuable information in all introductory core FLPA courses tested.

Mainstage and film production surveys indicate that students are learning and having a positive experience in faculty directed/ designed/ produced projects. We did neglect to produce a survey for one of our film productions (*A Night for Conversation*); we will ensure this oversight does not happen again in the future. Further, we have historically included all responses (faculty, staff, students, community members) in production survey data. Beginning with this assessment report, we feel it is important to only include student data and omit faculty, staff, and community member opinion of project. Total data is still collected for each project, but only student data will be used here.

3. Curricular changes resulting from conclusions drawn above

Based on the collected data, the Theatre & Film Department will continue to provide opportunities for our students to receive consistent feedback, allowing them to experience steady improvement through their BA course of study. All of our students continue to gain practical experience through working on professional film sets, participating in main-stage productions, and interacting closely with faculty advisors and mentors. Through teaching and production work, our department prepares students to succeed professionally in the Film and Theatre industries, while educating students across disciplines in the fundamental skills of collaboration, communication, and creativity.

This assessment report marks the second such report for the recently formed Film & Performing Arts BA which went into effect Fall 2016. This FLPA BA is a merger of our two former BAs in Theatre and Film, which was a massive revision of our curriculum (starting in the 2016-17 catalog). Our FLPA degree majors take a shared core of three classes (*Fundamentals of Acting*, *Film Set Production I*, and *Introduction to Production Design*) and then choose a concentration in either Film or Theatre. With current assessment results, we feel our FLPA BA has been successfully implemented. We have made some adjustments to our curriculum in response to data and faculty opinion of curriculum effectiveness detailed below.

Curricular changes implemented in response to conclusions and additional faculty observations on current FLPA curriculum:

1. FLPA F271 Film Set Production I: During our last SLOA Summary review cycle, we added prerequisites of FLPA F241 Basic Stagecraft or FLPA F258 Light, Camera, Audio to ensure students were coming into this Film Set Production I class with experience in either design or film equipment operation. Because this is a production class (we make a movie each fall semester), we are not able to spend a lot of time teaching basic skills before beginning production. We thought at the time that these added prerequisites would improve student learning outcomes. They have not; post-test scores remain in the 60% range which we do not think is high enough to prove effectiveness of instruction. We have now revised our pre-post test assessment questions for FLPA F271 so that the questions can more effectively align with production skill experience taught in the course.

2. FLPA F331 Film Directing: We added FLPA F121 Fundamentals of Acting as a prerequisite to FLPA F331 Film Directing. We saw that student directors in FLPA F331 who had not taken FLPA F121 were not able to effectively coach actors on performances in their scenes. We expect FLPA F331 directors to be more successful in the course now that we have added this prerequisite.

3. FLPA BA: We adjusted the FLPA BA Film Concentration electives to include upper-division performance classes: FLPA F320 Acting II: Voice & Speech, FLPA F321 Acting III: Movement, and FLPA F423 Acting IV: Scene Study. We have found that many Film Concentration FLPA majors want to take more acting classes which previously have only existed in the Theatre Concentration of the major. This shift will allow more flexibility for Film Concentration students interested in performance (and directing) to have those classes count toward their concentration elective requirements.

4. Online course development: In response to UAF enrollment trends (and COVID-19), we are currently developing the following FLPA courses for online delivery: FLPA F121X Fundamentals of Acting, FLPA F231 Previsualization & Preproduction, FLPA F247 Introduction to Production Design, FLPA F260 Digital Video Editing. Currently, the following courses are already delivered online: FLPA F200X Discovering Stage & Screen, FLPA F215X Dramatic Literature & History, FLPA F217X Introduction to the Study of Film, FLPA F334 Movie & Films, FLPA F371 Digital Imaging, FLPA F472 3D Animation. Although the core of our work is hands-on learning in film and theatre production, the COVID-19 crisis has pushed faculty to get creative with online delivery modes.

4. Identify the faculty members involved in reaching the conclusions drawn above and agreeing upon the curricular changes resulting

All current Department of Theatre & Film faculty took part in assessing our FLPA program and implemented the curricular changes resulting from assessment and other observations of curriculum effectiveness:

Carrie Baker, Professor, Chair
Kade Mendelowitz, Professor
Maya Salganek, Associate Professor

5. Has your SLOA plan been updated to include assessment of the program's Communication Plan, as required by Faculty Senate motion? (required for baccalaureate programs only)

Our current FLPA Communication Plan (submitted in 2016) includes details about the embedding of key communication skills within our discipline: oral communication, written communication, and collaborative communication.

Our current FLPA SLOA Plan currently assesses all three modes of communication with the following:

1. Portfolio Review, Audition Workshop, Reel Review (ORAL & WRITTEN Communication)
2. Mainstage and Film Production Surveys (COLLABORATIVE Communication)
3. Pre/Post Tests (WRITTEN Communication)

Our current SLOA adequately addresses communication skills.