

ANNUAL OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT REPORT  
**HISTORY**  
2004-2005

1. History is implementing outcomes assessment according to the plan posted on the Provost's website.

Understanding that students will probably not create their own portfolios, we have refined the plan so that the faculty will collect papers and the department will create and maintain portfolios for students.

2. We just started collecting papers and have collected:
  - a. from Hist 275, a required introductory course on the nature of history – 8 papers
  - b. from 300 & 400 –level history courses – 14 papers

We have video tapes and senior theses from previous years' graduating seniors.

3. We are continuing to collect student papers at all levels and will continue to videotape senior presentations.

4. There was no assessment data this year.

5. We did a major overhaul of our curriculum two years ago. This involved the creation of History 275: Perspectives on History, as a requirement for all majors. We also added a depth requirement (two courses at the 400-level) and further refined our breadth requirement (to include courses from US, European and "other" history).

These changes grew out of faculty discussions relating to the fact that History majors were having difficulty in writing major research papers and in understanding just how historians handle material. There seemed to be an undue emphasis on "telling the story," and we want to expand students' visions to encompass the fact that there are several different ways to "tell the story."

None of these changes grew out of a formal assessment process.

6. No budget implications to date.