# Program Plan and Findings: Four Column Layout



# Program (EHS) - DEAN - University Studies (BUS) - 025

**Program Mission Statement:** Individualization and flexibility are features of the program leading to the degree of Bachelor of University Studies. The program is designed for goal-directed, motivated, and mature students who find that the present degree programs (majors) at the University will not enable them to attain their educational objectives. The Bachelor of University Studies degree program allows a student to use the total resources of the University available to accomplish unique educational objectives. The program may or may not prepare a student for a particular occupation or for entry into a professional school.

## **Program Information**

### 2019 - 2020

Program Information Assessment Coordinator's Name: Christine Ormsbee Assessment Coordinator's E-mail Address: ormsbee@okstate.edu Number of Students Enrolled in the Program: 257 Total Number of Students Graduated: 11 Number of Student Graduates from Stillwater Campus: 11 Number of Student Graduates from Tulsa Campus: 0 Were university assessment funds used by the department/program for assessment activities?: No If yes, describe how funds were used and the contribution the funds had on the assessment process:

### Annual Executive Summaries

2019 - 2020

Program Assessment Coordinator: Christine Ormsbee

Plan Review and Approval

Date Current Plan Was Reviewed and Approved:

Date of Future Plan Review and Approval:

#### **Summary of Assessment Findings**

**Describe overall assessment findings and faculty members' interpretation of the assessment results:** In general, the results of the written product review showed a good development of communication, critical thinking, and content development skills. The majority of students were able to demonstrate in writing their ability to organize an argument or thesis, provide evidence to support it, and engaged in a convincing presentation.

While there were a handful of students who did not meet the goal, their work was not so far below their peers to cause panic. Most of the underperforming products were less organized, less mature in thought and concept, and less well developed. Some of that may be their programs offered fewer opportunities to develop those skills. The nature of the BUS does not make it easy to pinpoint a common curricular deficit.

The survey of student perceptions suggests that, in general, students were pleased with their degree. While they didn't necessarily see a direct path to a specific career with the BUS, they did believe that the BUS helped them develop important skills and would help them gain employment.

#### **Dissemination of Findings**

Describe the individual(s) or committee responsible for reviewing and interpreting assessment data: The data will be disseminated to the Associate Dean, Adrienne Sanogo to share with the college curriculum committee for further analysis and action.

**Describe the process for sharing and discussing assessment findings with program faculty:** Adrienne and Christine Ormsbee, who collected the data and analyzed the products, will meet with the committee to review the data and discuss the results. If possible, we can review some of the transcripts of the student participants to see if there are common areas of strength and weakness that can be used for advisement of BUS students.

#### **Program Improvements Based on Assessment**

Based on data collected this year, what changes are being considered or planned for the program?: None at this time

Based on this year's findings, what (if any) changes are planned for the assessment process?: None at this time. I would like to go through at least one more assessment cycle to see if the data are similar before modifying the rubric or survey.

Describe the process for implementing these changes/planned program improvements: NA

Program Improvements Made in the Last Year: Revised Assessment Plan

"Other" Improvements: NA

Goals for the Coming Year: Add an additional reviewer for the written products to help support a valid application of the rubric.

Is this Summary Report Complete?: Yes

List all individuals associated with this report preparation: Christine Ormsbee

Outcomes	Assessment Methods	Findings	Use of Findings (Actions)
Critical Thinking Skills - Students will demonstrate critical think skills involving analysis, interpretation, and discussion of research findings/results. Outcome Status: Active Planned Assessment Year: 2019 - 2020 Start Date: 09/16/2019 Archived Date: Outcome Type: Skills Reason for Archival:	Analysis of Written Artifacts - Rubric * Learning Outcome Goal/Benchmark: 80% of students will score a rating of good or higher for the use of evidence/research in their written product. Timeline for Assessment: Final year Other Assessment Type:	Reporting Period: 2019 - 2020 Conclusion: 3 - Meets Program Expectations (Proficient) Students' written products were evaluated for their ability to effectively use evidence and/or research in their written products. Students were generally successful with an average score of 3.05. Of the 19 students who submitted their work, only 1 student was ranked below Good in this area. The majority of the students scored a 3 suggesting that they were able to provide adequate and appropriate support for their argument or claim. (09/11/2020) Number of Students Assessed: 19 Number of Successful Students: 18 How were students selected to participate in the assessment of this outcome?: Students received an email requesting that they submit a written product for review. What do the findings suggest about student achievement of this learning outcome?: Students are able to effectively use data and other evidence to support their arguments in	Use of Findings (Actions): Continue to use this assessment to see if it is effectively assessing this learning outcome. (09/11/2020)

Outcomes	Assessment Methods	Findings	Use of Findings (Actions)
	Survey - Survey * Learning Outcome Goal/Benchmark: 80% of students will report that the degree program improved their ability to think critically. Timeline for Assessment: Final year Other Assessment Type:	written form. <b>Reporting Period:</b> 2019 - 2020 <b>Conclusion:</b> 3 - Meets Program Expectations (Proficient) In general, students indicated in a survey that they were satisfied or very satisfied (67%) with how their degree helped them develop critical thinking skills. (09/12/2020) Number of Students Assessed: 16 Number of Successful Students: 16 How were students selected to participate in the assessment of this outcome?: Students received an email requesting that they participate in the assessment process. What do the findings suggest about student achievement of this learning outcome?: Students	Use of Findings (Actions): The sample size is too small to draw any meaningful conclusions. I hope to obtain a larger sample this year. (09/12/2020) Use of Findings (Actions): The data would suggest that students feel their program has had a strong impact on their critical thinking skills. (09/12/2020)
Written Communication Skills - Students will demonstrate effective written communication skills. Outcome Status: Active Planned Assessment Year: 2019 - 2020 Start Date: 09/16/2019 Archived Date: Outcome Type: Skills Reason for Archival:	Analysis of Written Artifacts - Rubric * Learning Outcome Goal/Benchmark: 80% of students will score a rating of good or higher for the writing style on their written product. Timeline for Assessment: Final year Other Assessment Type:	Reporting Period: 2019 - 2020 Conclusion: 3 - Meets Program Expectations (Proficient) Overall, students demonstrated effective writing styles that used good word choices, varied sentence types, and good grammar. Their writing showed varied styles and enthusiasm for their topics. The group's average rating for writing style was 3.17 with 15 students scoring Good or Higher and 4 students out of 19 scoring lower than a Good. (09/11/2020) Number of Students Assessed: 19 Number of Successful Students: 15 How were students selected to participate in the assessment of this outcome?: Students received an email requesting that they submit a written product for review. What do the findings suggest about student achievement of this learning outcome?: In general, students are developing their own writing styles that are grammatically correct and engaging.	Use of Findings (Actions): Continue to use the rubric to begin to identify areas where remediation can be provided. Perhaps adding an additional question to the survey to determine where students believe they could have better learning opportunities. (09/11/2020)
	<ul> <li>Analysis of Written Artifacts - rubric</li> <li>* Learning Outcome</li> <li>Goal/Benchmark: 80% of students</li> <li>will score good or higher on</li> <li>organization on their written</li> <li>product.</li> <li>Timeline for Assessment: Final year</li> <li>Other Assessment Type:</li> </ul>		

#### **Outcomes**

**Reason for Archival:** 

#### Assessment Methods

#### Findings

Content Knowledge - Students can demonstrate mastery of core concepts from their studies. Outcome Status: Active Planned Assessment Year: 2019 -2020 Start Date: 09/16/2019 Archived Date: Outcome Type: Knowledge Analysis of Written Artifacts - Rubric \* Learning Outcome Goal/Benchmark: 80% of students will score a rating of good or higher for the quality of the content reflected in their written product. Timeline for Assessment: Final year

Other Assessment Type:

#### Reporting Period: 2019 - 2020

**Conclusion:** 3 - Meets Program Expectations (Proficient) Of the 19 students assessed an average ranking of Good was obtained. Fifteen (15) students earned rating of Good or better, while four (4) students received rankings below Good. Two (2) students were given Outstanding ranks for content. (09/11/2020)

Number of Students Assessed: 19 Number of Successful Students: 15

the organization as well.

How were students selected to participate in the

assessment of this outcome?: Students received an email requesting that they submit a written product for review. What do the findings suggest about student achievement of this learning outcome?: In general, students are able to use develop a clear and concise thesis, and support that thesis with evidence. They are able to create an organized through line of thought to the conclusion. Those students who did not do as well in this category, often struggled in

#### Use of Findings (Actions)

#### Use of Findings (Actions):

Continue to use the rubric to begin to identify areas where remediation can be provided. Perhaps adding an additional question to the survey to determine where students believe they could have better learning opportunities. (09/11/2020)