Department: **Liberal Studies**

**Assessment Coordinators:** Scott Pearce, working with Assessment Committee composed of Rob Stoops and Andrea Gogrof

**Departmental Mission:** The WWU Liberal Studies Department serves the university and the larger community by supporting and sustaining excellent interdisciplinary teaching, learning, and scholarship in the humanities. To our students we impart a knowledge of the world’s key canons and of the power of the book, together with an ability rigorously and critically to explore, contextualize and analyze texts of various types. From our program come broad-minded and well-educated citizens, able and willing effectively to take on a variety of undertakings that serve the needs of the people of Washington and the larger world.

**Departmental Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon graduation, Liberal Studies Humanities majors will have:

1. engaged texts of disparate origin and kind through close reading, and with a critical eye;
2. mastered multiple methods of inquiry used in the humanities disciplines;
3. developed written and oral communication skills;
4. acquired substantial knowledge of different worlds of thought and belief around the globe with a sensitivity to comparative dimensions;
5. come to see the need to contextualize books, works of art and other cultural artifacts within the worlds that gave them birth, and to see their influence over social, political and religious dynamics;
6. gained an appreciation of a range of manifestations of cross-cultural contact and exchanges across human history;
7. employed cognitive, analytical and communication skills which will be of use in many fields and professions beyond the university;
8. become knowledgeable and effective citizens of Washington and the larger world.

**Student Learning Outcomes Assessed This Year:**

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<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>SLOs Assessed</th>
<th>Results</th>
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Changes based on assessment findings:

1. Advertise our senior seminars to the larger university community; and

2. At this year’s department retreat we will as a group discuss how to improve the senior projects, in practical terms such as setting dates for drafts to be completed for submission to the supervising professor and the second reader; and more generally, in terms of how to foster conceptual analysis in our students across the range of courses leading up to senior projects.