ASSESSMENT

History students must be able to compare histories of diverse geographical regions and their development over time. In complementary approaches to understanding how well students are able to do so, faculty members scored students’ capstone research papers and reviewed their responses to a capstone survey in which they reported how well they felt the program prepared them to make such comparisons.

IMPACT

With the goal of strengthening students’ skills and confidence in historical research, the faculty has added a new course to the curriculum. HIS 3000: The Historian’s Craft, is an intermediate-level methodology course focused on developing students’ ability to identify and collect historical materials at an earlier stage in the curriculum. By providing this earlier exposure, faculty members hope to provide a more robust foundation that will elicit improved results in the capstone in the future. They will be gathering data in upcoming years as the first cohorts of students take this class to see if it has the desired impact.