



## Department of History

#9 Plan cycle - 9

Plan cycle 2023/2024

7/1/23 - 6/30/24

## Introduction

The Department of History provides education to prepare graduates for a wide variety of careers (in education, government, law, research, etc.) requiring critical thinking, analytical, and research skills that will enable them to value lifelong learning and become productive and ethically responsible citizens in a multicultural global community.

As a service department offering a wide array of general education courses, the History Department will specifically focus on this segment of the University mission statement: “successful education of the undergraduate students.”

**Performance Objective 1 Engage in collaborative ventures and campus and community activities which enhance economic development, cultural and artistic growth, and /or educational experiences for the SWLA region and beyond.**

**1 Assessment and Benchmark**

Benchmark: The department will organize or participate in a total of five community events each year (public lectures, movie sessions, etc.).

**1.1 Data**

Academic Year	# of community events organized/attended by faculty
2013	5
2014	8
2015	—
2016	9
2017	14
2018	14
2019	7
2020	1
2021	5
2022	8
2023	14

**1.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement**

2019-2020:

Dr. Allured, Dr. Girard, Dr. Nabours, and Dr. Noseworthy all gave community talks. The pandemic somewhat hindered community engagement in the spring.

2020-2021:

Community engagement unfortunately was severely hampered by the pandemic and hurricanes, hopefully temporarily. The loss of Dr. Allured's faculty line following her retirement will be felt in both the short and long term by the department.

2021-2022:

Our department's Phi Alpha Theta chapter sponsored three virtual events in the fall, and in the spring resumed in-person community events, with a lecture by Dr. Girard and a movie night. We plan to build on this next year and even slightly expand departmental events to improve engagement with the community and our students. A pizza party to welcome new students is also planned.

2022-2023:

Our chapter of the history honor society Phi Alpha Theta sponsored seven campus events this year, including two movie screenings, two faculty research talks (by Dr. Crawford and Dr. Lee), a talk about the history of Halloween by Dr. Smith, a student research talk by Kallie Johnston, and a pizza party for our graduates. Dr. Smith also gave a talk to a community group. We are successfully renewing our commitment post-pandemic to active student engagement outside of the classroom.

2023-2024:

Our number of community engagement events has returned to pre-pandemic levels, though attendance of students at these events has been a little disappointing. The newly formed History Club hopefully will in the future help us promote these events and drive student attendance. Events included two faculty research

talks (by Dr. Smith and Dr. Blakeley), two movie screenings, pizza parties for graduates both semesters, and a civics discussion with the mayor and sheriff-elect. Effective 2024-2025, we would like to increase the benchmark to eight community events per year.

## 2 Assessment and Benchmark

Benchmark: Phi Alpha Theta will initiate at least three new members each academic year.

### 2.1 Data

Academic Year	# of students initiated into Phi Alpha Theta
2013-2014	2
2014-2015	8
2015-2016	—
2016-2017	7
2017-2018	8
2018-2019	6
2019-2020	6
2020-2021	10
2021-2022	7
2022-2023	6
2023-2024	4

#### 2.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement

2019-2020:

Drs Allured and Noseworthy again served as co-sponsor for the department chapter and maintained its activity despite the challenges caused by the pandemic.

2020-2021:

Dr. Noseworthy took over as sole sponsor for the chapter ahead of Dr Allured's retirement. He brought in more new members than ever before and expanded its speaker series to its largest number of annual events, despite having to go virtual due to the disruptive effects of the pandemic and hurricanes.

2021-2022:

After bringing the department's Phi Alpha Theta to its highest membership ever and highest amount of events in a semester in Fall 2021, Dr. Noseworthy left the university this year. Dr. Smith is currently serving as interim sponsor for the chapter, so this was a transitional year for the organization. But it was another successful year in terms of recruiting new members, and next year is planned to be even more active in terms of events.

2022-2023:

With Dr. Smith as the new faculty advisor for our Phi Alpha Theta chapter, we initiated six new members, meeting the benchmark, and had a full calendar of student-centered events in both fall and spring. We plan to continue actively recruiting and scheduling events next year, including promoting the events on our new social media pages.

2023-2024:

Phi Alpha Theta met the benchmark by inducting four new members. We would like to revise this objective since we have created a new, more inclusive student organization: the History Club. This club organized this year, was recognized by McNeese as an official student organization, and reached a high of 19 members. The assessment should now track members in both of our student organizations.

**Performance Objective 2 Demonstrate excellence in teaching in order to enhance student recruitment, retention, and graduation.**

### 1 Assessment and Benchmark

Benchmark: Every full-time faculty member will post a composite score of 82% or above on Student Evaluations of Instruction for their courses.

### 1.1 Data

Academic Year	# of full-time faculty with a composite score of 82% or higher	Department Average	University Average
2013	10/11	91.4%	90.52%
2014	10/11*	91.5%	90.3%
2015	10/10	89.0%	86.2%
2016	10/10	87.8%	88.0%
2017	9/10**	89.0%	88.4%
2018	10/10	89.6%	88.0%
2019	8/10	86.6%	88.2%
2020	9/10	89.4%	88.0%
2021	8/9	87.6%	89.8%
2022	7/8	89.8%	90.8%
2023	7/8	88.0%	91.2%

\*The faculty member scoring below the benchmark scored 80.5%.

\*\*The faculty member scoring below the benchmark scored 81.6%.

#### 1.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement

2019-2020:

Two faculty members missed the benchmark this year. One subsequently retired. The other is being encouraged to improve performance particularly in the area of communicating with students. The political climate caused modern US history classes in particular to become combative with many students on both sides of the spectrum very sensitive about certain issues.

2020-2021:

The department bounced back and SEI performance again exceeded the university average. One faculty member again missed the benchmark and is being urged to improve communication, still (this faculty member struggled due to contracting COVID in the spring).

2021-2022:

One faculty member missed the benchmark rather badly (SEI average of 65%). This faculty member was again urged to improve communications with their students. Closer mentoring is being considered for next year in an attempt to improve performance.

2022-2023:

The same faculty member missed the benchmark with a similar score (SEI average of 64.8%). Steps to remediate their performance and adjust their schedule has been taken, giving them fewer online classes moving forward among other things. The faculty member was on medical leave in the spring semester so this is based just on their fall course evaluations. The overall department average was higher than it has been in eight years reflecting the stellar scores by most of the department faculty, despite the one outlier bringing the average down, though just with one semester's worth of evaluations.

2023-2024:

One faculty member missed the benchmark (SEI average of 68.4%, so higher than the two previous years). That faculty member has now retired and will no longer teach for the department.

## 2 Assessment and Benchmark

Benchmark: Pedagogy and content will be considered satisfactory by the colleague conducting the peer review.

## 2.1 Data

Academic Year	# of full-time faculty that were considered satisfactory or better during peer reviews
2013-2014	11/11
2014-2015	11/11
2015-2016	—
2016-2017	10/10
2017-2018	10/10
2018-2019	10/10
2019-2020	10/10
2020-2021	10/10
2021-2022	8/8
2022-2023	7/7
2023-2024	6/6

### 2.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement

2019-2020:

Peer review results met the benchmark. The pandemic and move online in the spring make it difficult to assess the results.

2020-2021:

Peer review results met the benchmark. Since all classes were moved online due to the pandemic, hurricanes, and spring flood, faculty gained experience teaching online, and the feedback from colleagues in the peer reviews was particularly valuable.

2021-2022:

Peer review results met the benchmark, and were very positive. The history department resumed teaching primarily face to face courses this year, and the peer reviews focused on these sections particularly, emphasizing ways to maximize student engagement coming out of the disruptive move online last year.

2022-2023:

Peer review results met the benchmark. Faculty evaluated a mix of face to face and online courses, with the intention of maintaining rigor and quality in both modes of course delivery.

2023-2024:

All peer reviewed faculty met the benchmark. Two new assistant professors will be joining the department next year, and will be peer-reviewed by veteran faculty.

## 3 Assessment and Benchmark

Benchmark: The department will graduate at least eight Liberal Studies and eight History majors a year (based on a five-year moving average).

### 3.1 Data

Academic Year	# of HIST Graduates	# of LSTU Graduates
2016-2017	12	9
2017-2018	5	5
2018-2019	13	5
2019-2020	9	2

2020-2021	14	15
2021-2022	10	8
2022-2023	9	8
2023-2024	8	10

### 3.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement

2019-2020:

This was a low year for departmental graduates, likely affected by the pandemic and unplanned move online.

2020-2021:

This was a strong year for our graduation numbers despite all the challenges posed by the pandemic and hurricanes, a testament to the determination and hard work of our students and faculty. As a result the department exceeded the five year benchmark for history graduates, while falling slightly short of the benchmark for liberal studies graduates.

2021-2022:

The benchmark was met for the year. History graduates are well above the benchmark for the five-year average, Liberal Studies somewhat below the benchmark (an average of 7 graduates over that period). The department has adopted a plan to improve retention in the LBST program. Based on persistence and retention data, we identified the first and third years of the program as danger point for students, so added interventions to address these. Also we plan to change the name of the program from Liberal Studies to Humanities, which we believe will be strategic rebranding and improve its marketability.

2022-2023:

The number of History graduates remains above the benchmark. Humanities (formerly Liberal Studies) has been at or above the benchmark for the last three years, and it is believed that the rebranding and continued interventions with at-risk students will help both recruiting and retention for that program.

2023-2024:

The benchmark was met and exceeded for the Humanities BA. Number of history graduates remains consistently strong. Rebranding the Humanities (formerly Liberal Studies) degree and the recently adopted plan for interventions with at-risk students have contributed to improved retention and recruiting results. The department also designed (with the McNeese PR office) new brochures to promote these programs.

## Performance Objective 3 Demonstrate commitment to research and creative and scholarly activity.

### 1 Assessment and Benchmark

Benchmark: Faculty will achieve a combined departmental output of at least one Tier-1 publication (e.g., book), two Tier-2 publications (e.g., articles), and three Tier-3 publications (e.g., book reviews or encyclopedia entries) in the previous year.

#### 1.1 Data

Academic Year	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
2013	6	11	6
2014	3	2	3
2015	—	—	—
2016	2	1	5
2017	0	2	5
2018	0	11	8
2019	1	5	3
2020	1	4	1
2021	0	0	2

2022	0	1	2
2023	0	4	4

### 1.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement

2019-2020:

The benchmarks were met, with Dr. Noseworthy co-authoring a book and Dr. Girard publishing multiple articles particular highlights.

2020-2021:

Publishing by department faculty slowed slightly due to the effects of the pandemic and hurricane and the loss of the very productive Dr. Allured, who retired and whose position was deleted for budget reasons (due to her retirement she chose not to participate in the APR process this year, so she is not represented in the data). Dr. Keeling did publish a book, which he co-edited with Dr. Allured.

2021-2022:

The benchmark was not met as department faculty this year, while the university and community recover from the hurricanes and pandemic, appropriately prioritized teaching and service to the university over their research (which travel restrictions also made difficult). Several faculty members have ongoing book and article research projects that will result in publications in the near future. The losses of multiple faculty lines makes this benchmark mathematically more difficult to achieve, but still worthwhile aspirationally.

2022-2023:

This remains a challenging benchmark for department faculty to meet and this year again we fell short, though faculty have research projects at different stages of development that should ultimately result in publications. The department plans to hire a new tenure-track faculty member next year to replace a now retired instructor, which hopefully will result in more research productivity from that faculty line.

2023-2024:

Other than the book category, the publication benchmarks were met. Dr Lee's book manuscript is still under review, and two new assistant professors will start on the tenure track next year, so more book publications should be in the pipeline.

## 2 Assessment and Benchmark

Benchmark: All tenure-track employees will be considered "active" in the research area (e.g., by submitting a paper, doing research at an archive, or attending a conference).

### 2.1 Data

Academic Year	# of tenure-track faculty	Very active (3+ activities)	Active (1-2 activities)	Inactive (0 activities)
2013	7	4	1	2
2014	7	5	1	1
2015	—	—	—	—
2016	7	2	4	1
2017	7	3	4	0
2018	7	5	2	0
2019	7	3	4	0
2020	7	2	5	0
2021	5	3	2	0
2022	5	1	4	0
2023	6	1	5	0

### 2.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement

2019-2020:



Departmental faculty are engaged in research and remain productive.

2020-2021:

Production remained strong despite challenges due to the pandemic and hurricanes that limited research travel and opportunities. The retirement and deletion of the line of Dr Allured will also hamper research productivity, though this year Dr Lee was added as a tenure track member in a line formerly designated for an instructor, which hopefully could offset this.

2021-2022:

Faculty remain committed to research. Two faculty are engaging in international research (at the British library) this summer, and Dr. Girard presented his research at four different conferences. Dr. Lee has visited multiple archives this year as he finishes work and revisions on his dissertation/ first book and begins his next project.

2022-2023:

Faculty continue engaging with research, with several attending conferences for the first time since the pandemic, and Dr. Girard having a particularly productive year with multiple articles at different stages of review and multiple conference presentations.

2023-2024:

Faculty remained engaged in scholarly activity. There was a panel at this year's Louisiana Historical Association conference in New Orleans at which three McNeese history professors presented papers.

#### **Performance Objective 4 Utilize resources effectively to support the University mission.**

##### **1 Assessment and Benchmark**

Benchmark: The Department will help recruit students to the University by organizing five classes a year at local high schools through the high school dual enrollment program.

##### **1.1 Data**

Term	# of dual enrollment sections offered
Fall 2016	10
Spring 2017	8
Fall 2017	8
Spring 2018	7
Fall 2018	8
Spring 2019	7
Fall 2019	7
Spring 2020	7
Fall 2020	6
Spring 2021	6
Fall 2021	5
Spring 2022	5
Fall 2022	8
Spring 2023	6
Fall 2023	5
Spring 2024	6

##### **1.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement**

2019-2020:

The department continues to exceed the benchmark for offering dual enrollment courses. Ms Jones of the

history department now offers one online instead of as previously done with the very outdated and poorly performing compressed video equipment.

2020-2021:

The department continues to exceed the benchmark for offering dual enrollment courses. They all moved online this year due to the pandemic and hurricanes, but such completion and SEI data as exists suggest they did so generally effectively.

2021-2022:

The department again exceeded the benchmark for dual enrollment sections, but again slightly reduced the number of such offerings, as the department and college are concerned that the program not become overextended and less successful.

2022-2023:

The department continues to schedule and promote dual enrollment sections, including with several newly recruited instructors.

2023-2024:

The department again met and exceeded the benchmark for dual enrollment sections, and continues to recruit and hire new instructors for those courses.

## **2 Assessment and Benchmark**

Benchmark: The Department will be awarded at least five research grant applications a year, including one to an organization outside the University.

### **2.1 Data**

2019-2020:

Department members had six fellowships awarded in 2019. Three were history department endowed professorships, and two were College of Liberal Arts endowed professorships.

Dr. Noseworthy received an outside grant that he utilized through the office of research services.

2020-2021:

Department members had seven fellowships awarded in 2020. Three were history department endowed professorships, and three were College of Liberal Arts endowed professorships.

Dr. Allured received an ATLAS grant from the state in the fall.

2021-2022:

Department members had six fellowships awarded in 2021. Three were history department endowed professorships, and three were College of Liberal Arts endowed professorships.

No outside grants were awarded.

2022-2023:

Department members had four fellowships awarded in 2022. Three were history department endowed professorship, and one was a College of Liberal Arts endowed professorship.

No outside grants were awarded.

2023-2024:

History department members had three fellowships awarded in 2023. All were history department endowed professorships.

No outside grants were awarded.

#### **2.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement**

2019-2020:

Again no outside grants were rewarded and the number of total grants was below the benchmark. Two new tenure-track assistant professors are joining the department next academic year and it is hoped and expected they will enhance our performance in this area.

[illegible]

LSTU	HUMN	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	2	4	6	1	0	0	0	4	4	1
	PHIL	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	3	0
	PLAW	1	1	0	1	3	1	7	3	2	0	12	0	3	3	2	1	9	0
	RELS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	1	1	3	0
	THAR	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	1	3	3	9	0	1	1	2	4	8	0
	WGST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
	(blank)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>6</b>

2020-2021:

Major	Conc.	Summer						Fall						Spring					
		F	S	J	Sr	T	CMP	F	S	J	Sr	T	CMP	F	S	J	Sr	T	CMP
HIST	GHST	0	0	2	6	8	0	5	3	8	12	28	2	4	3	3	15	25	8
	SSED	0	1	0	4	5	0	6	9	4	13	32	1	4	9	1	10	24	2
	(blank)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>10</b>
HSTO	GHST	0	1	2	0	3	0	2	1	3	3	9	0	1	1	2	4	8	1
	(blank)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>
LSTU	GEOG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	HUMN	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	0	1	3	4	3	1	0	2	3	6	2
	PHIL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	0	1	2	1
	PLAW	0	1	1	0	2	0	7	4	5	2	18	0	5	2	2	2	11	1
	RELS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	3	3	2
	THAR	0	0	0	2	2	0	5	2	1	5	13	2	4	2	1	2	9	3
	WGST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
	(blank)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>20</b>

2021-2022:

Major	Conc.	Summer						Fall						Spring					
		F	S	J	Sr	T	CMP	F	S	J	Sr	T	CMP	F	S	J	Sr	T	CMP
HIST	GHST	2	1	0	2	5	1	4	13	8	5	30	3	4	6	8	8	26	4
	SSED	0	1	1	0	2	0	14	5	4	6	29	3	8	9	5	1	23	0
	(blank)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>4</b>
HSTO	GHST	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	3	4	2	9	1	1	1	5	1	8	1
	(blank)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>
	GEOG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

LSTU	HUMN	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	1	3	6	0	1	1	1	5	8	3
	PHIL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
	PLAW	0	1	0	1	2	0	5	3	2	1	11	0	4	4	1	3	12	0
	RELS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
	THAR	0	0	1	0	1	0	7	2	2	0	11	0	1	6	2	0	9	0
	WGST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
	(blank)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>9</b>

2022-2023:

Major	Conc.	Summer						Fall						Spring					
		F	S	J	Sr	T	CMP	F	S	J	Sr	T	CMP	F	S	J	Sr	T	CMP
HIST	GHST	1	2	0	2	5	0	6	6	7	10	29	3	5	5	6	9	25	3
	SSED	0	1	1	1	3	0	8	7	4	4	23	1	7	5	5	0	17	0
	(blank)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>3</b>
HSTO	GHST	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	4	4	8	0	1	0	6	4	11	2
	(blank)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>
LSTU	GEOG	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
	HUMN	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	3	4	10	2	0	5	2	4	11	3
	PHIL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	PLAW	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	2	4	12	1	1	1	2	3	7	1
	THAR	0	0	0	1	1	0	5	3	2	2	12	0	3	2	2	3	10	1
	WGST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
	(blank)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>10</b>

2023-2024:

Major	Conc.	Summer						Fall						Spring					
		F	S	J	Sr	T	CMP	F	S	J	Sr	T	CMP	F	S	J	Sr	T	CMP
HIST	GHST	2	0	0	3	5	0	8	7	5	9	29	3	3	3	8	7	21	3
	SSED	0	1	1	1	3	0	13	7	3	1	24	0	4	6	3	2	15	1
	(blank)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>4</b>
HSTO	GHST	0	0	2	1	3	0	0	0	3	4	7	1	0	0	2	4	6	0
	(blank)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>
	GEOG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
	GNHM	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	5	2	4	11	0	0	2	4	6	12	1

HUMN	PHIL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	
	PLAW	0	1	0	0	1	0	4	2	0	3	9	3	2	1	1	0	4	0
	THAR	0	0	1	0	1	0	5	2	3	3	13	0	4	3	3	4	14	2
	WGST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
	(blank)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>9</b>

Percentage Change between 2018-2019:

Major	Fall	Total	% Change
HIST	2018	78	-3.846%
	2019	75	
HSTO	2018	2	100%
	2019	4	
LSTU	2018	35	-5.714%
	2019	33	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>-2.609%</b>
	<b>2019</b>	<b>112</b>	

Percentage Change between 2019-2020:

Major	Fall	Total	% Change
HIST	2019	75	-20%
	2020	60	
HSTO	2019	4	125%
	2020	9	
LSTU	2019	33	24.242%
	2020	41	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>-1.785%</b>
	<b>2020</b>	<b>110</b>	

Percentage Change between 2020-2021:

Major	Fall	Total	% Change
HIST	2020	60	-10%
	2021	54	
HSTO	2020	9	0%
	2021	9	
LSTU	2020	41	-19.512%
	2021	33	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>-8.181%</b>
	<b>2021</b>	<b>101</b>	

Percentage Change between 2021-2022

Major	Fall	Total	% Change
HIST	2021	54	-3.703%
	2022	52	
HSTO	2021	9	-11.111%
	2022	8	
LSTU	2021	33	-9.090%
	2022	36	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>-4.590%</b>
	<b>2022</b>	<b>96</b>	

Percentage Change between 2022-2023

Major	Fall	Total	% Change
HIST	2022	52	1.923%
	2023	53	
HSTO	2022	8	-12.5%
	2023	7	
HUMN	2022	36	-2.777%
	2023	35	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>-1.041%</b>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>95</b>	

### 1.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement

2019-2020:

The department did not meet the benchmark, which likely needs to be reconsidered given the pandemic and the university's overall enrollment trend. As it is a decline of less than 2 percent seems like a solid performance given the larger context of the university's issues and national trends.

2020-2021:

Enrollment declined in a very difficult year for the university with two hurricanes and a pandemic.

2021-2022:

Enrollment declined. The loss of three department lines (due to death, retirement, and resignation) none of which has been filled, made growth difficult to achieve, in addition to larger problems facing the entire university that continue to adversely affect enrollment.

2022-2023:

Enrollment declined as the university's overall enrollment continues to struggle. It is hoped that a return to pre-hurricane and pre-pandemic enrollments, or higher, will be possible in the near future, as the department focuses on maintaining quality in its programs, and recruiting and retention opportunities.

2023-2024:

Enrollment decline seems to have stabilized, along with the university's overall enrollment. It is hoped that we are poised for future growth and campus renovation and rebuilding efforts have finally begun in earnest. We also for the first time appointed a coordinator of recruiting for the department's programs, Dr. Jessica Bergen, who will develop and implement an aggressive recruiting plan.

## 2 Assessment and Benchmark

- A persistence rate (students retained from Fall Y1 to Spring Y1) of 85%.
- A retention rate of 70% from Y1 to Y2.
- A retention rate of 55% from Y1 to Y3.
- A retention rate of 45% from Y1 to Y4.
- A 4-year graduation rate of 35%.
- A 5-year graduation rate of 40%.
- A 6-year graduation rate of 45%.

- HIST - Bachelor of Arts in History
- HSTO - Bachelor of Arts in History-online
- LSTU - Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies

**Fall 2012 Cohort:**

Major	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate		Retention Rate						Graduation Rate					
				Y1 to Y2		Y1 to Y3		Y1 to Y4		4-Year		5-Year		6-Year	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HIST	9*	7	77.8	6	66.7	4	44.4	4	44.4	4	44.4	4	44.4	4	44.4
LSTU	7	4	57.1	3	42.9	2	28.6	2	28.6	1	14.3	2	28.6	2	28.6

**Fall 2013 Cohort:**

Major	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate		Retention Rate						Graduation Rate					
				Y1 to Y2		Y1 to Y3		Y1 to Y4		4-Year		5-Year		6-Year	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HIST	6*	2	33.3	2	33.3	2	33.3	2	33.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	16.7
LSTU	4	1	25.0	1	25.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

**Fall 2014 Cohort:**

Major	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate		Retention Rate						Graduation Rate					
				Y1 to Y2		Y1 to Y3		Y1 to Y4		4-Year		5-Year		6-Year	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HIST	12	6	50.0	3	25.0	2	16.7	2	16.7	0	0	1	8.3	1	8.3
LSTU	7	3	42.9	2	28.6	2	28.6	2	28.6	1	14.2	2	28.5	2	28.5

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[illegible]

**Fall 2016 Cohort:**

## Major Retention

Major	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate		Retention Rate						Graduation Rate					
				Y1 to Y2		Y1 to Y3		Y1 to Y4		4-Year		5-Year		6-Year	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HIST	9	3	33.3	4	44.4	3	33.3	2	22.2	2	22.2	2	22.2	2	22.2
LSTU	5	3	60.0	1	20.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

### Departmental Retention

Dept	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate		Retention Rate						Graduation Rate					
				Y1 to Y2		Y1 to Y3		Y1 to Y4		4-Year		5-Year		6-Year	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HIST	14	6	42.9	5	35.7	3	21.4	2	14.3	2	14.3	2	14.3	2	14.3

**Fall 2017 Cohort:**

## Major Retention

Major	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate		Retention Rate						Graduation Rate					
				Y1 to Y2		Y1 to Y3		Y1 to Y4		4-Year		5-Year		6-Year	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HIST	12	6	50.0	5	41.7	5	41.7	5	41.7	2	16.7	3	25.0	3	25.0
LSTU	11	8	72.7	4	36.4	5	45.5	5	45.5	3	27.3	3	27.3	4	36.4

## Departmental Retention

Dept	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate		Retention Rate						Graduation Rate					
				Y1 to Y2		Y1 to Y3		Y1 to Y4		4-Year		5-Year		6-Year	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HIST	23	15	65.2	11	47.8	12	52.2	12	52.2	5	21.7	6	26.1	7	30.4

**Fall 2018 Cohort:**

## Major Retention

[illegible]

HIST	12	7	58.3	5	41.7	5	41.7	1	8.3						
LSTU	8	5	62.5	2	25.0	0	0.0	0	0.0						

## Departmental Retention

Dept	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate		Retention Rate						Graduation Rate					
				Y1 to Y2		Y1 to Y3		Y1 to Y4		4-Year		5-Year		6-Year	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HIST	20	12	60.0	7	35.0	5	25.0	1	5.0						

## Fall 2019 Cohort:

## Major Retention

Major	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate		Retention Rate						Graduation Rate					
				Y1 to Y2		Y1 to Y3		Y1 to Y4		4-Year		5-Year		6-Year	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HIST/ HSTO	17	9	52.9	6	35.3	4	23.5	3	17.6						
LSTU	6	3	50.0	2	33.3	1	16.7	0	0.0						

## Departmental Retention

Dept	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate		Retention Rate						Graduation Rate					
				Y1 to Y2		Y1 to Y3		Y1 to Y4		4-Year		5-Year		6-Year	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HIST	23	12	52.2	8	34.8	5	21.7	3	13.0						

## Fall 2020 Cohort:

## Major Retention

Major	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate		Retention Rate						Graduation Rate					
				Y1 to Y2		Y1 to Y3		Y1 to Y4		4-Year		5-Year		6-Year	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HIST/ HSTO	8	8	100	7	87.5	6	75.0	4	50.0						
LSTU	12	8	66.7	7	58.3	4	53.3	3	25.0						

## Departmental Retention

Dept	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate		Retention Rate						Graduation Rate					
				Y1 to Y2		Y1 to Y3		Y1 to Y4		4-Year		5-Year		6-Year	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HIST	20	16	80.0	14	70.0	11	55.0	9	45.0						

## Major Retention

Major	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate		Retention Rate						Graduation Rate					
				Y1 to Y2		Y1 to Y3		Y1 to Y4		4-Year		5-Year		6-Year	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HIST/ HSTO	16	12	75.0	8	50.0	6	37.5								
LSTU	6	5	83.3	4	66.7	3	50.0								

Dept	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate		Retention Rate						Graduation Rate					
				Y1 to Y2		Y1 to Y3		Y1 to Y4		4-Year		5-Year		6-Year	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HIST	22	17	77.3	12	54.5	9	40.9								

## Major Retention

[illegible][illegible]

## Major Retention

[illegible]

## Departmental Retention

Dept	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate		Retention Rate						Graduation Rate					
				Y1 to Y2		Y1 to Y3		Y1 to Y4		4-Year		5-Year		6-Year	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
HIST	15	11	73.3												

## Summary of Persistence, Retention, and Graduation Rates:

Fall Cohort	Cohort Size	Persistence Rate	Retention Rate						Graduation Rate		
			Y1 to Y2	Y1 to Y3	Y1 to Y4	4-Year	5-Year	6-Year			
2016	14	42.9	35.7	21.4	14.3	14.3	14.3	14.3			
2017	23	65.2	47.8	52.2	52.2	21.7	26.1	30.4			
2018	20	60.0	35.0	25.0	5.0						
2019	23	52.2	34.8	21.7	13.0						
2020	20	80.0	70.0	55.0	45.0						
2021	22	77.3	54.5	40.9							
2022	19	57.9	47.4								
2023	15	73.3									
<b>Average</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>63.6</b>	<b>46.5</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>22.4</b>			

## 2.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement

2019-2020:

The history department's 60% persistence rate needs improvement. The pandemic in the spring and unplanned move of all classes online likely impeded our efforts

2020-2021:

The history department's 85% persistence rate met the benchmark and represents a bounce-back performance, despite the challenges presented by the ongoing pandemic and two hurricanes, among other weather events. Hard work by both senior and junior faculty was essential in accomplishing this result. Expanded departmental faculty advising responsibilities and an expanded and more active student organization (Phi Alpha Theta) were also helpful.

2021-2022:

The 86% persistence mark exceeded the benchmark. The department came up with a plan to address the Liberal Studies program's low persistence rate two years ago, adding interventions in the first and third years, where data suggested problems could develop.

In the first year we will provide earlier contact between students and an advisor in their specialized concentration. And in the third year if students are identified as performing below expectations in the mid-point class, their advisor will reach out to them, identify any special challenges they might be facing, and come up with a specialized plan of acting, which could include referrals to university resources like counseling or career services.

2022-2023:

We are continuing the plan to improve persistence and enrollment for the Liberal Studies (now Humanities) program, focusing both on customized interventions by advisors for at risk students, especially in their first and third year. The new name is intended to help rebrand the program and benefit recruitment.

A somewhat unique feature of the General Humanities concentration of the Humanities degree is that it

functions as an off-ramp for students who stop making progress in other (especially secondary education) programs. Students regularly transfer into the concentration during their senior year in order to graduate, sometimes in the same semester, including two in spring 2023.

The strong persistence rate of the fall 2020 cohort, despite the challenges they faced, is a bright spot in the data.

2023-2024:

Persistence rates are disappointing, but are higher for the most recent four years than for the four years previous, which suggests a positive trend. A new student organization (the History Club) it is hoped will provide more engagement activities for students and be helpful for retention purposes.

**Performance Objective 6 Provide a comprehensive curriculum that reflects disciplinary foundations and remains responsive to contemporary developments, student and workforce demand, and university needs and aspirations.**

**1 Assessment and Benchmark**

Benchmark: Program faculty meet at least once per academic year to review student progress, curricular offerings, and appropriate professional contacts and opportunities.

**1.1 Data**

2019-2020:

Faculty meetings: Aug. 2019 (Fall), Jan. 2020 (Spring) meeting cancelled due to COVID

2020-2021:

Faculty meetings: Aug. 2020 (Fall), Jan. 2021 (Spring)

2021-2022:

Faculty meetings: Aug. 2021 (Fall) (virtual), Jan. 2022 (Spring)

2022-2023:

Faculty meetings: Aug. 2022 (Fall), Jan. 2023 (Spring)

2023-2024:

Faculty meetings: Aug. 2023 (Fall), Jan. 2024 (Spring)

[2019 \(Aug\) beginning of year meeting](#) [DOC 31 KB 7/24/21]

[2019 Spring meeting](#) [DOC 28 KB 3/4/20]

[2020 \(Aug\) beginning of year meeting](#) [DOC 31 KB 7/24/21]

[2021 \(Aug\) beginning of year meeting](#) [DOC 29 KB 7/9/22]

[2021 spring department meeting](#) [DOC 31 KB 7/24/21]

[2022 \(Aug\) beginning of year meeting](#) [DOC 31 KB 7/8/23]

[2022 spring department meeting](#) [DOC 29 KB 7/9/22]

[2023 \(Aug\) beginning of year meeting](#) [DOC 30 KB 5/23/24]

[2023 spring department meeting](#) [DOC 32 KB 7/8/23]

[2024 spring department meeting](#) [DOC 30 KB 5/23/24]

**1.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement**

2019-2020:

The new Social Studies Education program went into effect and a new adviser was assigned to work with majors in this program.

2020-2021:

Department advising was further reorganized, with new advisers dedicated to transfer students and online majors, and a second adviser added for Social Studies Education majors. This is intended to improve the quality of advising and retention for those programs. Also a new course was created on the Civil Rights Movement to improve the diversity of the department's curriculum. A new gen ed class, HIST 200

(comprehensive US survey) was created and designed.

2021-2022:

The department piloted new SLOs emphasizing civics for our US history surveys and world history surveys, and problem solving for our European history surveys. We are working to create a new Environmental Studies concentration for the Liberal Studies BA, which would represent a partnership between the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Agriculture. We also plan to rename the Liberal Studies BA the Humanities BA (the name of one of its most successful concentrations) which we think will make it more marketable.

2022-2023:

The Liberal Studies program has been renamed/ rebranded as Humanities.

A new Public History concentration is planned for the History BA, and will be submitted to the curriculum committee this year. A new Introduction to Public History class and a new History Internship program have both been created in conjunction with this potential new program. Internships can be customized to find work experience fitting student interests, including museum studies, library/ archives, and pre-law.

The Environmental Policy concentration ultimately was housed in the Department of Social Sciences, not in the Department of History.

2023-2024:

The new Public History concentration of the History BA has been approved and is in the catalog for the upcoming year. It will include a required internship course and the new Introduction to Public History course. Dr Girard is also considering creating a study abroad course focused on the history of Mexico.

## **Performance Objective 7 Prepare students for graduate or professional programs through engagement and preparatory activities.**

### **1 Assessment and Benchmark**

Benchmark: Each year, one History major will present his/her research at a professional conference (e.g., Louisiana Historical Association Conference).

#### **1.1 Data**

Academic Year	# of students that presented research at a professional conference
2019-2020	—
2020-2021	—
2021-2022	0
2022-2023	1*
2023-2024	1**

\*History major Kallie Johnston presented a paper at the spring 2023 Louisiana Historical Association conference.

\*\*History major Sarah Lognion presented a paper at the spring 2024 Sigma Tau Delta conference.

#### **1.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement**

2019-2020:

The cancellation of the Louisiana Historical Association annual meeting due to COVID made it necessary for us to suspend this benchmark.

2020-2021:

The Louisiana Historical Association's spring annual meeting was again cancelled due to COVID, again making it necessary for us to suspend this benchmark.

2021-2022:

Benchmark missed. Next year we will attempt to resume our pre-Covid success in having students present their work at the spring annual meetings of the Louisiana Historical Association.

2022-2023:

One student with a strong capstone project presented her research at the spring Louisiana Historical Association annual meeting. The paper won an award. It is our intention to build on this success by encouraging more students to present in future years.

2023-2024:

One student presented a paper at the spring Sigma Tau Delta conference. The paper won an award and \$500. It is our intention to continue to encourage students to present papers both at professional conferences and undergraduate research events, and to provide support to them in doing so.

## 2 Assessment and Benchmark

Benchmark: Each year, one History graduate will gain admission to a graduate or professional program.

### 2.1 Data

Academic Year	# of students admitted to graduate or professional program
2019-2020	1*
2020-2021	2**
2021-2022	1***
2022-2023	2****
2023-2024	4*****

\*Gavin LaBiche (McNeese English)

\*\*Edwin Koenck (Queen's University Belfast), Crosby Qui (Texas A&M)

\*\*\*Logan Fontenot (UL-Lafayette)

\*\*\*\*Kristen Dougay (UL-Monroe), Kallie Johnston (UL-Lafayette)

\*\*\*\*\*David Thompson (Duke Law), Amber Garner (Louisiana Tech), Brendan Keller (Memphis), Sarah Miller (LSU Anthropology)

#### 2.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement

2019-2020:

The pandemic has hindered our ability to compile data from our graduates toward this benchmark, but nevertheless the benchmark was met.

2020-2021:

The pandemic and hurricanes continue to make it difficult to compile and access data regarding this benchmark, but again our graduates met and this year exceeded the benchmark, reflecting the high caliber of our recent graduates.

2021-2022:

One of our recent graduates (Logan Fontenot) was accepted and received a TA position in the History MA program at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, one of the state's top History MA programs.

2022-2023:

Two of our program's graduates this year were accepted to History MA programs in the state.

During the Academic Program review this year we also confirmed that a number of our recent graduates are in graduate or professional programs, including 2022 graduate Annamarie Sunderbruch (MA in education at NSULA), 2021 graduates Kodie Burch (Loyola law school), Jaelan Willis (Tulane law school), Lara Lignitz (MA in music at Loyola), Zoe Glaspie (MA in library science at University of Denver), Chloe Guidry (MA in psychology at ULL), and Lauren Broussard (Garrett Theological Seminary), 2020 graduates Jacob Caldwell (Loyola law school), Himie Neupane (MFA at UNO), and Isaiah Manuel (school counseling MA at McNeese), and 2019 graduate Gavin LaBiche (LSU law school).

One challenge in measuring this benchmark is that students often wait a year or more after graduation to apply to graduate programs.

2023-2024:

Four of our graduates from this cohort were admitted to graduate or professional programs, including David Thompson (Duke Law School).

Other recent graduates who also got into graduate programs this year included Logan Fontenot, who graduated from the ULL MA program in history and was accepted into the LSU history PhD program.

### **3 Assessment and Benchmark**

Benchmark: The department will encourage student participation in professional writing and presentations.

#### **3.1 Data**

2019-2020:

24 students in HIST 300 completed oral presentations. 22 of them (91.6%) achieved a grade of C or higher. 12 students in HIST 410 completed a final research paper. 10 of them (83.3%) achieved a grade of C or higher.

2020-2021:

14 students in HIST 300 completed oral presentations. 14 of them (100%) achieved a grade of C or higher. 22 students in HIST 410 completed a final research paper. 20 of them (90.9%) achieved a grade of C or higher.

2021-2022:

19 students in HIST 300 completed oral presentations. 18 of them (94%) achieved a grade of C or higher. 11 students in HIST 410 completed a final research paper. All of them (100%) achieved a grade of C or higher.

2022-2023:

17 students in HIST 300 completed oral presentations. 15 of them (88%) achieved a grade of C or higher. 18 students in HIST 410 completed a final research paper. All of them (100%) achieved a grade of C or higher.

2023-2024:

20 students in HIST 300 completed oral presentations. 19 of them (95%) achieved a grade of C or higher. 14 students in HIST 410 completed a final research paper. 13 of them (92%) achieved a grade of C or higher.

#### **3.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement**

2019-2020:

The benchmark now tracks how many students achieved a grade of C or higher, rather than averaging all students together. The results were strong.

2020-2021:

Despite the difficulty of moving classes online due to the pandemic and hurricanes, students did very well, particularly in HIST 410, the senior seminar/capstone.

2021-2022:

Students met the benchmark in both HIST 300 and HIST 410. Their performance in the capstone class remains particularly strong. Next year we hope to resume having some students from the capstone class present their research in the spring at the Louisiana Historical Association annual meeting.

2022-2023:

Results were strong in both HIST 300 and especially HIST 410, the capstone class. We are exploring ways for the capstone students to share their research in professional settings, including but not limited to the Louisiana Historical Association annual meeting and the McNeese radio station.

2023-2024:

Results were strong and exceeded the benchmark in both HIST 300 and HIST 410. We added an option to the capstone for students to also contribute to Dr Girard's McNeese radio program, an additional way for them to develop their professional skills.



