



## First Nations Studies | 2013-2014 Assessment Report

Please answer the following two questions based on the data you collected as part of your Programmatic Assessment Plan, which is provided below for your reference.

1. Please give a brief overview of the data you collected. This can be in any form you feel is appropriate, such as a table, a short narrative of results, statistical analysis, highlighting findings that were of particular interest, etc. In short, it doesn't matter how you submit your findings.

The FNS faculty continue to collect assessment data in two ways: 1) the faculty meet at the end of each semester and together complete a group assessment for each FNS major that has graduated from our program. 2) Each student graduating with the FNS major is asked to complete a senior exit interview. This can be done orally with the FNS chair or in written form.

2. How will you use what you've learned from the data that was collected? Some examples are: a change in assessment plan for the following year because you want to drill down deeper to find more or better information, faculty will discuss the data to decide what to do with it, curricular changes, faculty development, etc.

FNS faculty have learned that the response rate for the student exit interview is very low. We suspect that this is due to the fact that graduates receive the request to complete the assessment at the end of their last semester. This is a time when they are tired and not geared up for completing another school-related task.

In part, due to the low response rate, and in an overall effort to create a more culturally appropriate assessment, the FNS faculty are redesigning FNS 391 Seminar. Our goal is to create a capstone course for FNS majors and minors that would include a self assessment and senior e-portfolio in Chalk and Wire. These would be used for program assessment and student self assessment.

In addition, Poupart is currently developing a culture based assessment rubric based on the work of the ground breaking work of the late Dr. William Demmert. This is an assessment tool that would be used in conjunction with the FNS e-portfolio. In spring of 2014 Poupart was awarded a UWGB IDC grant to complete the rubrics and pilot them with students in the redesigned FNS 391. This will take place in spring 2015.

The FNS program is on the cutting edge of program assessment in our efforts to design and implement culture based FNS assessment. Our work in this area will serve as a national model.

### **First Nations Studies Assessment Plan**

1. Which outcome will you assess?

Indigenous Philosophy and Intellectual Traditions: Students will demonstrate an understanding of Elder epistemology in the oral tradition.

2. Which technique will you use to assess this outcome?

Oral assessment with FNS seniors

3. Which course or group of students will you assess on the outcome chosen above and when?

December/May - end of each semester Our program is too small - we need to assess every student who is a senior