Hampden-Sydney College “Bridging the Humanities”

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| ActivitiesThe individual tasks performed to achieve the objective | Time FrameDue dates for activities | Responsible Party | OutcomesProjected benefits/degree of change to program or community often expressed as percentages | Performance Measures and ToolsMeasures and Processes to demonstrate attainment of outcome |
| **GOAL: Complete detailed planning for implementation of Bridging the Humanities that structures the program and builds collaborations among the full faculty to facilitate its interdisciplinary objectives.** |
| Objective #1: Create a collaborative syllabi for project course sequence that allows students to explore and consider disciplinary boundaries. | July 2017 thru fall semester  | Project Co-Directors; Department Chairs for all areas of study within the Division of Humanities; Faculty within the Division of HumanitiesCollaborators: Associate Dean of Faculty; full faculty; student volunteers from junior and senior level classes | Project Planning Period will create course syllabi linked to project overall goals | 1) Regular meeting at least every two weeks with planning team2) New collaborative partnerships for the benefit of the greater project objectives are identified3) Responsibilities for creating course content defined4) Opportunities for students to construct knowledge in the course are structured5) Dissemination of best-practice models for collaborative team-taught courses in the full project |
| Objective #2: Integrate course approaches in linked courses for fall 2018. | July 2017 thru fall semester  | Project Co-Directors; Department Chairs for all areas of study within the Division of Humanities; Faculty within the Division of HumanitiesCollaborators: Associate Dean of Faculty; full faculty | Faculty will deliberately and cooperatively shape courses to speak to common themes. | 1) Regular meeting at least every two weeks with planning team 2) Identification of opportunities for faculty to “visit” other instructors courses3) Identification of options for in- and out-of-class guest lecturers4) Identification of opportunities for students in linked courses to collaborate with each other |
| Objective #3: Gain insight into the demand on faculty time for collaborative team-teaching. | July 2017 thru fall semester  | All participating faculty; Associate Dean of Faculty; and College Administration | Comprehensive understanding of the project’s demand on faculty time for comparison to routine average for single instructor of record courses. | 1) Faculty teaching team members will log hours required to complete course preparation work2) Associate Dean and College Administration will review and consider time requirements within the context of College standards3) New course development results will be assessed of assessment by appropriate faculty committees given current College standards regarding promotion and tenure |
| Objective #4: Finalize evaluation standards | July 2017 thru December 2018  | Project Co-Directors; Associate Dean of Faculty; Faculty Assessment Steering Committee; Office of Institutional Effectiveness | 1)Develop assessment tools for experiential learning opportunities in spring 20182) Data sets that inform the College about larger questions related to curriculum, student engagement and retention | 1) Regular meetings at least bi-weekly to discuss and review assessment tools2) Identify salient data parameters and methodology for data collection3) Determine roles and timing for appropriate data collection |
| Objective #5: Recruit students to participate in Bridging the Humanities | July 2017 thru fall semester  | Project Co-Directors; full Faculty; Office of Academic Success; Freshmen Advisors; Office of Marketing and Communications; Director of Social Media | Achievement of targeted student enrollment for Bridging the Humanities | 1) Create targeted project advertising for students2) Create project materials to support collaboration with other campus offices in recruitment |
| **GOAL: Implement Bridging the Humanities program** |
| Objective #1: Students will improve in the practice of integrating learning by reaching across disciplinary boundaries | Spring 2018 | Pilot Teaching Team; full faculty; Associate Dean of Faculty | Students demonstrate achievement in presenting interdisciplinary concepts into holistic arguments | 1) Course assignments will provide exercises that encourage student exploration of ideas and concepts across disciplines2) Individual research ideas are developed by students3) Students develop collaborative partnerships with other students, inside and outside of the project, for research and community projects |
| Objective #2: Develop annual project theme and recruit appropriate teaching team | Spring 2018; Spring 2019; annually NLT March to confirm theme | Pilot Teaching Team; full faculty; Associate Dean of Faculty | Theme teaching team in place | Issue request for themes to the faculty and/or confirm preliminary theme 2 concept of “Environment” |
| Objective #3: Students will confirm identity reflection with through community engagement, vocational reflection workshops and experiential learning | May Term 2018; May Term 2019 | Pilot Teaching Team; Faculty Advisors; Project Delphi; Moton Museum; Office of Academic Success | Students demonstrate critical thinking links among humanities concepts and project theme of identity as a result combining course work with community engagement, vocational reflection and experiential opportunities. | 1) Vocational reflection workshop led by Project Delphi will orient students to thinking about larger concepts of career and life and begin to link courses/research work with personal callings2) Community engagement will provide historical context for identity and generate additional ideas and questions for continued exploration on return to the classroom |
| Objective #4: Students will use interdisciplinary methods to conduct inquiry and analysis in the elective linked course  | Fall 2018; May Terms in spring 2018 and 2019 | Pilot Teaching Team; Faculty Advisors; full Faculty | Students demonstrate interdisciplinary, humanities-grounded understanding with a “capstone” research project | 1) Capstone research projects are presented on campus2) Some students and advisors will present at national conferences |
| **Goal: Evaluate impact and disseminate findings/outcomes** |
| Objective #1: Survey student interest in the project | Summer 2019 | Pilot Teaching Team; full faculty; Associate Dean of Faculty; Office of Institutional Effectiveness | Completed survey by students participating in pilot project | 1) Capture completion rates, course selection/grades, and research/community projects completed/quality indicators2) Compare minor/major data from anticipated to actual declaration for pilot cohort3) Complete interviews with some students to compile anecdotal insights that may be used to improve approach in out-years4) Share/discuss student survey results with faculty and College Administration |
| Objective #2: Host regional workshop with other Virginia colleges  | Pilot term mid-point (likely early in second year) | Pilot Teaching Team; full faculty; Associate Dean of Faculty; Office of Institutional EffectivenessInvited: Southside VA 2- and 4-year colleges | 1) Workshop completion 2) External/regional impact dissemination3) Informed project approaches for 2 year of pilot and out-years | 1) Faculty will work with external colleagues to explore impact of findings on delivery of project2) Impact to the humanities will be reviewed based on early findings and input from external colleagues3) List developed of suggested revisions to approach, tools for expanded community engagement, new collaborative opportunities to support project improvements |
| Objective #3: Report project findings to NEH | Mid-Point of Project; Summer 2019 | Project Co-Directors | Renewed emphasis on the humanities at Hampden-Sydney College, demonstrated by measurable culture change on campus and uptick in Humanities major/minor of graduates | 1) New course work for project is integrated into curriculum2) C-Directors attend grantees conference at NEH in Washington DC3) White paper authored by Co-Directors and widely shared with NEH/Humanities Connections grantees |