

Chapter 9: Graduate Discipline Spotlight

Over the past several years, the Assessment Almanac has included one chapter dedicated to the assessment practices of a specific undergraduate discipline and another to the assessment practices of a specific graduate discipline. This year the History department is the focus of the Graduate Discipline Spotlight. Though there is not a graduate degree in history at Truman, the Master of Arts in Education (MAE) allows for specialization in history. In this program classes for students include 1 required class and 3 electives for a total of 4 different classes. Within this program there is a research class and a seminar class.

With the help of the Education program and the Career Center the History department is able to track the graduate students that have a concentration in History. The department is interested in seeing how well Truman students perform within the job market after graduating from Truman. Results from the last several years suggest that MAE students with a specialization in history have met with success in employment.

Undergraduate students in history must take the ACAT as their senior test. This allows faculty to understand the progress of students in history before they enter the MAE program. The History department is also transitioning from major courses worth three credit hours to major courses worth four credit hours. History faculty have paid special attention to course learning objectives during this transition. Within graduate courses, some of the most important objects are graduate-level analysis within written work, critical thinking and reading, problem solving, and advanced writing abilities,