

MA in Humanities Exit Assessment

At the conclusion of the program, students should be able to demonstrate a competence regarding both the critical thought that hallmarks Humanities graduate work and the appropriate level and understanding of writing that accompanies graduate work in the Humanities fields. All students will be assessed to determine that they

- can demonstrate that they are **skillful interpreters** of textual, visual, and/or cultural creation;
- are familiar with the **processes of research and writing** that hallmark graduate-level study in a Humanities field;
- are capable **synthesizers of ideas** of critical resources relevant to their field and understand the nature of research appropriate to the field.

Students are assessed back on materials submitted for completion of HUM 510 and the student's thesis work. These materials are held in the Program Director's Office. Materials will be based on the demonstration of a key ability as well as growth from first course to last.

Exit assessment evaluation scale (on a basis of 1-4)

1 – the student does not demonstrate an understanding of the goal in any measurable way

2 – the student demonstrates a basic understanding of the goal, but there are still severe deficiencies present in her demonstration of the course goal

3 – the student demonstrates a strong understanding of the goal, but is still missing one or two key components in mastering the goal

4 – the student demonstrates a full understanding of the goal per the course's level and objectives

In regards to **skillful interpretation**, do the students demonstrate their ability to

- _____ complete an analysis of the subject matter closely;
- _____ use literary/historical/cultural evidence;
- _____ situate the subject area in its socio-historical context.

In regards to the **process of research and writing**, do the students demonstrate their ability to

- _____ compare and contrast themes across works related to the subject area;
- _____ use research to enter scholarly dialogue;
- _____ construct and support a viable and defensible argument;
- _____ discover and utilize level-appropriate resources
- _____ highlight an awareness of audience and a requisite level/style of writing.

In regards to the **synthesis of ideas**, do the students demonstrate their ability to

- _____ apply theoretical constructs relevant to the subject area to aid in understanding and highlighting the subject area;
- _____ understand the nature and arguments of the critical works being used;
- _____ use these arguments to bolster their own thesis and foster a greater understanding of the subject area.