MA in Humanities Exit Assessment – Portfolio Evaluation Form
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. The portfolio will assess that students
- o can demonstrate that they are **skillful interpreters** of textual, visual, and/or cultural creation;
- o are familiar with the **processes of research and writing** that hallmark graduate-level study in a Humanities field;
- o are capable **synthesizers of ideas** of critical resources relevant to their field and understand the nature of research appropriate to the field.

Completed portfolios must be submitted to the Program Director prior to the last day of classes in the semester the student plans to complete his/her degree requirements.

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

Each portfolio must contain three seminar papers generated from coursework within the program each designated to apply to the particular markers set up in the Portfolio Exit Assessment.

For the paper related 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.

For the paper related 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 defendable argument;
_____ discover and utilize level-appropriate resources
_____ highlight an awareness of audience and a requisite level/style of writing.

For the paper related 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.