

The University of Southern Mississippi

Detailed Assessment Report

2014-2015 Youth Services and Literature Graduate Certificate**

As of: 1/13/2017 02:19 PM CDT

(Includes those Action Plans with Budget Amounts marked *One-Time, Recurring, No Request*.)

Mission / Purpose

This certificate prepares students for educational or library careers related to children and young adult literature, programs and services.

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Targets, Findings, and Action Plans

SLO 1: Principles of Selection and Evaluation of Materials for Youth

Students will apply the principles of selection and evaluation to create an age-appropriate themed online pathfinder that is visually appealing and professionally annotated—object may be from LIS 517 or LIS 518.

Related Measures

M 1: Pathfinder

Using the tool of their choice, students will create the online pathfinder incorporating appropriate books, websites, and media; the project will be evaluated for content, writing and aesthetics using the Pathfinder Evaluation Rubric. Source of Evidence: Online Product (may be a website, wiki, blog, Google doc, Prezi, etc.) linked to the ePortfolio

Source of Evidence: Project, either individual or group

Target:

Using the Pathfinder Evaluation Rubric, 90% of students will be rated commendable or exceptional.

Finding (2014-2015) - Target: Met

100% (1/1) student seeking the certificate successfully completed the online pathfinder and scored exceptional (2/3) or satisfactory (1/3) using the Pathfinder evaluation rubric. (Spring 2015 1/1)

SLO 2: Programming for Youth

Students will create a year's worth of programs, coordinating supplies and budget, advertisements, and select examples for a targeted youth population.

Related Measures

M 2: Youth Program Planning

The required assignments will be assessed using the appropriate rubrics paying special attention to incorporation of theme months, appropriate paid consultants/performers, age appropriate selection of materials and program. Source of Evidence: Rubric rating score for calendar, budget, advertisements, and examples.

Source of Evidence: Project, either individual or group

Target:

Using the Rubrics, 90% of students will be rated satisfactory or excellent.

Finding (2014-2015) - Target: Met

100% (1/1) of the students seeking the certificate were rated satisfactory or excellent using the rubrics. (Spring 2015 1/1)

Details of Action Plans for This Cycle (by Established cycle, then alpha)

Additional elective choices

Review courses for possible additional electives for certificate plan.

Established in Cycle: 2013-2014

Implementation Status: In-Progress

Priority: High

Responsible Person/Group: Dr. Stacy Creel

Additional Resources: None

Compare to other programs

Compare our certificate course and assignment requirements with what other programs offer.

Established in Cycle: 2013-2014

Implementation Status: In-Progress

Priority: High

Projected Completion Date: 05/2016

Responsible Person/Group: Faculty

Additional Resources: None

Analysis Questions and Analysis Answers

What specifically did your assessments show regarding proven strengths or progress you made on outcomes/objectives?

No students completed the assessments during this cycle. We do have some students who will complete during the upcoming cycle and so far they are doing well on the assessments.

What specifically did your assessments show regarding any outcomes/objectives that will require continued

attention?

No students completed the assessments during this cycle. Based on previous cycle and performance of students who have completed this summer (upcoming cycle), students are doing well on the assessments.

Annual Report Section Responses

Program Summary

The Graduate Certificate in Youth Services and Literature came into being in Spring 2013 and to date there have been 4 students to complete the requirements. No students completed during the current cycle, however. The goal of the certificate is to prepare students for educational or library careers related to children and young adult literature, programs and services. Students will use this certificate for career development, advancement, and diversification. The certificate requires 15 hours with nine hours being required and six hours being elective. Students can apply 12 hours taken within degree coursework.

Continuous Improvement Initiatives

There is still insufficient feedback for real improvement initiatives. The certificate has been advertised on national and international online resources and at face-to-face presentations. The advisor for the certificate continues to look for additional online courses at the master's level with the College of Education and Psychology that could be incorporated as electives and broaden the interest base. Consideration is being given to adding a practicum as an elective choice as well as other possible courses in CoEP as electives. Several students should complete in the next cycle which will provide more data for evaluation of the program since only four have completed thus far.

Closing the Loop

This is still a new program with few completers at this point. No students completed during the current cycle. However, several students should completed during the next cycle which will provide more data and feedback. Students seem to be generally satisfied with the certificate program and it adds a career option for students preparing to work in public and/or school libraries. Youth services is a major department in public libraries, usually with dedicated personnel. The curriculum committee continues to assess options for this certificate program and feedback from completers is being gathered. Consideration is being given to adding a practicum as an elective choice in line with one of the action plans regarding electives. That has not yet been brought before the faculty.