Feedback Report

UCA Core Council Assessment sub-committee

March 2020

Re: Review of LD Core Diversity Course Offerings

Thank you for providing the information requested by the sub-committee. The assessment sub-committee is diligently reviewing all courses in the Lower Division Core Diversity area to assure that our students are receiving a shared, common experience across the university as regards this Core competency. Your participation is greatly appreciated in this endeavor. The sub-committee would like to provide you with this feedback report as an informational item. If you have questions, concerns, or comments please direct those to the Director of the UCA Core, Jake Held (jmheld@uca.edu)

Course Prefix and Number: HIST 1399

Course Title: A History of Today – The World Since 1945

**Syllabus**: Any syllabus for a course in the UCA Core must include language indicating the courses relative position within the UCA Core. The required boilerplate language can be located here: <http://uca.edu/academicaffairs/publications-information/>

The syllabus provided did not include the required language.

**Lower Division Core standards:** Does 50% of the course content directly align to the Core outcomes for the goal under with the course assesses? (NB: This is calculated by considering course objectives, readings, lecture/discussion, and assignments as indicated by the course syllabus and provided work.)

HIST 1399 is designated under Goal A of the Diversity Core competency rubric, however, the materials provided indicated that the department was under the impression that the course fell under Goal B, and in fact, it was brought to the committee’s attention that the department believed the initial classification under Goal A to be an error. Thus, we evaluated the course under Goal B, and if this is the desire of the department we can easily change the course designation so it will be designated as assessing under Goal B, not Goal A.

The material provided for HIST 1399 was more than sufficient in order for the sub-committee to make an informed evaluation in this regard.

As a lower division Core course, these courses ought to provide students with the foundational skills necessary to begin developing the outcomes indicated under the rubric. In order to provide such an experience it is necessary that students be routinely exposed to these ideas and offered multiple opportunities to develop these skills. We found that in HIST 1399 students were offered ample opportunities throughout the semester to be introduced to these skills and demonstrate their development. The course was well-aligned to the learning outcomes of the rubrics under which the courses are designated. Simply stated, insofar as we at UCA view Diversity as a desirable educational goal of our Core curriculum, HIST 1399 is well-structured and promotes the student learning outcomes of Diversity Goal B well.

**Improvement**: Suggestions for how the course might optimize its role within the UCA Core.

N/A

**Questions/Concerns of the sub-committee**:

Please contact Dr. Held to either verify that HIST 1399 should be designated under Goal A or request that it be designated under Goal B.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Assistant Provost for Academic Assessment and General Education, Jake Held (jmheld@uca.edu)