**ASSESSMENT REPORT/PLAN**

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<tr>
<th>College/Division:</th>
<th>Academic Affairs</th>
<th>Academic Year:</th>
<th>2010 - 2011</th>
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<tr>
<td>Department/Center/Office:</td>
<td>Medieval Studies (minor)</td>
<td>Submission Date:</td>
<td>October 30, 2011</td>
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**MISSION STATEMENT:**

The Medieval Studies minor seeks to foster an understanding of the cultural monuments of the European Middle Ages both as accomplishments worthy of study in their own right and as the source of countless institutions of, and questions about, modernity in the West. In keeping with the mission of the College of Humanities and Natural Sciences, the faculty pursue a multidisciplinary approach to teaching and research that emphasizes the interrelatedness the many fields of human knowledge.

**OBJECTIVES/GOALS:**

The Medieval Studies program neither has now nor has had in recent years, if ever, a strategic plan. The program identified the development of a full strategic plan as a goal in 2007-2008 but failed subsequently to achieve that goal largely because the Chair was also serving as the Deputy Director of the University Honors Program during that same period. While a comprehensive strategic plan remains a *desideratum* of the Steering Committee, the simple fact of the matter remains that developing such a plan requires resources of time that the already overburdened members of the Steering Committee do not possess. The four regular members of the Steering Committee have between them directed the University Honors program, chaired a department in the College of Humanities and Natural Sciences, served as an area director within the College of Music and Fine Arts, chaired the Common Curriculum Task Force, and directed two other interdisciplinary minor programs during the last four years. We are among the most active faculty on campus in terms of service, scholarship, and off-campus professional activities. The program therefore had no specific goals tied to any strategic plan during 2010-2011.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

a. Students should be familiar with the basic framework of western European history in the Middle Ages and the methods for creating that framework.

b. Students should be familiar with major works of medieval literature written in English and translated from other languages and methods for interpreting those works.

c. Students should be familiar with major works of philosophy or theology in the Latin Middle Ages and methods for interpreting those works.

d. Students should be familiar with products of medieval culture outside of literature (music, visual arts, etc.) and methods for interpreting those works.

e. Students should be able to communicate ideas in oral and written form.

**ASSESSMENT (What assessment tools are you using and how do they address the objective/goals cited above?):**

Despite lacking a strategic plan, the program did pursue two primary assessment activities during the course of 2010-2011. The Steering Committee (1) continued a conversation begun in 2009-2010 about the possibility of expanding the program to Medieval and Renaissance Studies and (2) began a program evaluation using the "Systematic Assessment Guide" compiled by Heather Mack and distributed during a Spring 2011 assessment workshop.

**WHERE ARE THE ASSESSMENTS LOCATED?**

The program did not formally assess our student learning outcomes this year. These outcomes were, however, the subject of our assessment activities during the period 2004-2008, and the results are recorded in the Annual Reports covering those years and can be found on our intranet. The assessment activities outlined above are ongoing and will carry us into 2011-2012. We intend to gather data during Fall 2011 that will enable us to decide by the end of that semester whether to expand into Medieval and Renaissance Studies. The results so far of our program evaluation appear in an appendix to the 2010-2011 Annual Report found on our intranet.

**EVALUATION METHODS (How were the assessments evaluated?):**

Assessment results are evaluated and interpreted in meetings of the Medieval Studies Steering Committee.

**RESULTS/OUTCOMES:**

Since Medieval Studies initiated but did not complete any formal assessment during 2010-2011, we have no results or outcomes to report.

**USE OF RESULTS (What modifications, adjustments were made based upon the evaluation of the assessment materials?):**

Since we are still assessing the program, we have not yet made any changes to the program. We anticipate doing so...
during the 2011-2012 or perhaps 2012-2013 academic year.

RESOURCES/TIMELINE/APPROVALS (Based upon the modifications/adjustments included in the USE OF RESULTS section, identify the timeline, resources and approvals required to implement the change.):

N/A

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<th>SIGNATURE: DEPT. CHAIR/DIRECTOR</th>
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