

Historical Literacy Outcomes

Draft Document approved by ad hoc Historical Literacy Committee (Ron Morgan, Kelly Elliott, Doug Foster, Vernon Williams, and Matt Roberson) and presented to the UGEC at January 13, 2016 meeting

Together with the reduction of the General Education Social Science requirement from 6 hours to 3, a 3-hour Historical Literacy requirement has been added to University Requirements. Historical Literacy may be satisfied by a menu of courses that meet learning outcomes to be determined and approved by the UGEC in conjunction with the Department of History and Global Studies.

The Historical Literacy Requirement is designed to ensure that ACU students can demonstrate understanding of how historical events shape and influence the contemporary human condition. As determined by the Historical Literacy Committee (HLC), courses that satisfy the 3-hour Historical Literacy Requirement must demonstrate each of the following student learning outcomes:

- Outcome 1: Students will demonstrate broad knowledge of key historical events, personalities, movements, themes, patterns, and ideas that have influenced human civilizations, including issues of gender and social diversity.
- Outcome 2: Students will encounter and analyze primary sources in their historical context.
- Outcome 3: Students will discuss broad historical themes of causation, continuity, and change and apply these themes to significant turning points in history.
- Outcome 4: Students will recognize and critique the process of historical narrative creation in public memory (i.e. in museums, public memorials, canons, and historiography).

The Department of History and Global Studies envisions that these outcomes (especially Outcome 1), as well as the goals of General Education, will be best met by HIST 100-299 courses, which provide the most broad-based introduction to key events, themes, and patterns in human history. Other courses such as ART 221 and 222 (General Art History Survey I and II) may also be well suited to the Historical Literacy Menu.