

2009-10 ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEW REPORT
Part I: Narrative

Unit for Review: Master of Arts in Sustainable Communities

College/School: College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

University: Northern Arizona University

A. Scope of the Program Review.

MA Sustainable Communities

B. Quality Improvements Since Previous APR

- Year of previous review: 2000-2001
- Change in program name and academic home: Master of Liberal Studies changed to MA in Sustainable Communities
- Program moved from College of Arts and Letters to College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Program admitted for membership in the Association for Graduate Liberal Studies Programs

C. Outcomes of the Most Recent APR.

Strengths:

- Outstanding core course sequence provides strong foundation for varied student paths through the program
- Flexibility of program structure is highly valued by students
- Program benefits from university assets in many areas related to sustainability
- Program contributes to vitality of local community
- Strong and growing demand/enrollment

Concerns/Recommendations:

- Need to strengthen multi-disciplinary methodology training for students preparing for thesis research
- Thesis committees should be formed earlier in student's progression to guide course selection and proposal development
- Courses offered through disciplinary programs need to be better integrated into the interdisciplinary program framework
- Program should consider more structure for electives component of curriculum
- Program leadership and governance needs to be more widely distributed among faculty affiliates; a formal steering committee is recommended

D. Quality Improvements Planned

- Program will create a steering committee to formalize faculty governance
- Stronger alliances are being forged among programs within the college with strengths in scholarship and teaching in the area of sustainability
- Following departure of program director (for a position at another university), a search for new director is underway
- New director will spearhead a comprehensive evaluation of curriculum design.

E. Low Productive Degree Programs (If applicable)

N/A

F. Program Fee Information

N/A

University:								
2009-2010 Academic Program Review								
Part II: Data Summary								
Department: Master of Arts in Sustainable Communities								
College: Social and Behavioral Sciences								
Full-Time Equivalent (Fall Adjusted)	Fall 2003 2003-04	Fall 2004 2004-05	Fall 2005 2005-06	Fall 2006 2006-07	Fall 2007 2007-08	Fall 2008 2008-09	Fall 2009 2009-10	College Total 2009-10
Undergraduate								4,341.7
Graduate	16.9	11.6	18.3	15.9	14.2	14.9	17.2	318.7
Total *	16.9	11.6	18.3	15.9	14.2	14.9	17.2	4,660.4
Student Majors Headcount (Fall)	Fall 2003 2003-04	Fall 2004 2004-05	Fall 2005 2005-06	Fall 2006 2006-07	Fall 2007 2007-08	Fall 2008 2008-09	Fall 2009 2009-10	Fall 2009 2009-10
Undergraduate								4,066
Graduate	51	50	42	53	42	44	53	330
<i>Masters</i>	51	50	42	53	42	44	53	296
<i>Doctoral</i>								34
Total Degree Seeking	51	50	42	53	42	44	53	4,396
Degrees Granted	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2009-10
Baccalaureate								823
Graduate	11	6	6	12	12	11	11	96
<i>Masters</i>	11	6	6	12	12	11	11	90
<i>Doctoral</i>								6
Total	11	6	6	12	12	11	11	919
State Funds Personnel (Fall Census)	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2009-10
Faculty FTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.6	69.5
Tenured/Tenure-track FTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.6	69.5
Lecturers and Instructors FTE								29.0
Faculty Assoc./Faculty Research Assoc. FTE								
Staff FTE	0.5	0.5	1.0	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.1	68.7
Graduate Assistant FTE					1.1	0.5	0.8	20.3