

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Date submitted: June 1, 2013

Degree Program(s):	Master of Archives and Records Administration (MARA)	Department:	School of Library and Information Science
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Note: Schedule is posted at: <http://www.sjsu.edu/ugs/programplanning/>

ARCHIVAL INFORMATION

Location:	http://slisweb.sjsu.edu/about-slis/mara-program-performance	Person to Contact:	Patricia Franks	4-2494
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Initial Report on MARA Core Competency A: Articulate the ethics, values, and foundational principles of archives and records management professionals and appreciate the important role record keepers play in social memory and organizational accountability (Assignments in MARA 200 - The Record and the Recordkeeping Professions)

Findings from MARA 289 offered in spring 2012

The second five graduates of the MARA program completed their master's degrees in spring 2012. This allowed us to evaluate the students' performance in their culminating experience. They demonstrated mastery of the 9 MARA Program Learning Outcomes (Core Competencies) by completing the MARA culminating course, [MARA 289](#) (e-portfolio). The goal of MARA 289 e-portfolio is to provide a program-based assessment to ensure that each student demonstrates mastery of all program learning outcomes (core competencies).

In order to assess their understanding of the Core Competency A and their ability to provide evidence of mastery, their description of Core Competency A and the evidence they provided was analyzed. When asked to describe their understanding of Comp A, all of the students submitted assignments from MARA 200 (The Records and the Recordkeeping Profession) including 1) a journal / professional association analysis; 2) an article critique based on a work which referenced ethics, or social roles and responsibilities of the recordkeeping professions and 3) an institutional assessment and review. Two of the student also included assignments from MARA 256 (21st Century Archival Methods), which also

included an assignment on an archival site visit. The number of revisions needed to satisfactorily write Core Competency statement A was determined.

Of concern is that the statements of all students were accepted after three submissions (2 revisions).

Unfortunately data that would reveal how this group of students performed in both classes from which they submitted data, MARA 200 and MARA 256, was not captured.

The finding was that mastery of Core Competency A should be analyzed again in spring 2013 and spring 2014.

MARA 200 and Core Competency A during fall 2011 and fall 2012

It was not fall 2011 when we began to gather data on the grades of all students in all MARA courses for major assignments.

Because of the poor performance of students in MARA 289 when writing a statement for Core Competency A, grades earned by students taking MARA 200 and completing assignments supporting Core Competency A during fall 2011 and all 2012 were analyzed.

Data from fall 2011 revealed that 8 of 11 students earned an A on the Institutional Assessment assignment used to satisfy core competency A, 1 earned a B, 1 earned a C, and 1 received no grade. The group that took MARA 200 in fall of 2011 will take MARA 289 in spring 2014.

Grades earned on an assignment supporting core competency A in MARA 200 during fall 2012 were also analyzed. Of 20 students who submitted the assignment, 18 earned an A and 2 an A-. This group of students will not take MARA 289 until the spring of 2015.

Findings from MARA 289 offered in spring 2012

Based on the unsatisfactory results from the analysis of mastery of core competency A in spring 2012, competency A was again the focus of the analysis in MARA 289-eportfolio in spring 2013. This time the results were more positive.

The third eight graduates of the MARA program completed their master’s degrees in spring 2013. In order to assess their understanding of the Core Competency A and their ability to provide evidence of mastery, their description of Core Competency A and the evidence they provided was analyzed. When asked to describe their understanding of Comp A, all of the students submitted assignments from MARA 200 (The Records and the Recordkeeping Profession) including 1) a journal / professional association analysis; 2) an article critique based on a work which referenced ethics, or social roles and responsibilities of the recordkeeping professions and 3) an institutional assessment and review.

Three of the student also included assignments from MARA 256 (21st Century Archival Methods), which included an assignment on an archival site visit.

Number of revisions needed on competency statement for Core Competency A in MARA 289

% needing zero revisions	% needing 1 revision	Total % 0-1 revisions
37.5%	37.5%	0%

The statements of two students were accepted the third time they were submitted (2 revisions). The finding is that this group of students were able to write their statement for Core Competency A with fewer revisions than the previous class. This competency will again be measured in fall 2013 in the MARA 200 course and in spring 2014 in the MARA 289 course to see if the percentage of students able to submit the competency for their e-portfolio with no more than one revision increases.