## HIS-411 Capstone Rubric (to assess History Department SLOs 3 & 4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SLO3: Historical Research</th>
<th>Students will conduct original research by investigating and interpreting primary and secondary sources</th>
<th>Not met</th>
<th>Basic</th>
<th>Proficient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Does the paper pose a focused, significant, and researchable question? | • The paper poses a problem of interpretation or explanation rather than merely narrating an episode or discussing a topic from an ahistorical perspective  
• The scope of the paper is well-defined, feasible, and focused. |        |      |           |
| Is the paper built upon a sufficient, appropriate, and effective research bibliography? | • The paper relies on a sufficient range of secondary sources.  
• The bibliography consists of credible scholarly sources.  
• The bibliography is directly relevant to the research problem. |        |      |           |
| Does the paper demonstrate the skillful utilization and interpretation of primary sources? | • The paper addresses a sufficient array of primary sources relevant to the research question.  
• The paper evaluates primary sources according to the historical contexts of their production.  
• The analysis is sophisticated, and appropriately evaluates the primary sources according to their credibility, authority, authenticity, consistency, completeness, bias, and propagandistic agenda. |        |      |           |

### OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF SLO3 (Historical Research)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SLO4: Historical Interpretation</th>
<th>Students will use evidence-based reasoning to interpret the past coherently while developing and presenting an original argument, orally and in writing.</th>
<th>Not met</th>
<th>Basic</th>
<th>Proficient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Is the paper organized around a coherent and persuasive thesis? | • The thesis is clear, substantial, and appropriate to the historical discipline.  
• The thesis goes beyond summarizing others’ scholarship to reflect the student’s own research and discovery process. |        |      |           |
| Does the paper integrate evidence effectively? | • The paper effectively subjects primary and secondary sources to a recognizable method of historical analysis acceptable to the discipline.  
• The paper effectively, appropriately, and accurately summarizes and synthesizes the scholarship in the research bibliography.  
• The paper’s argument builds from or responds to the scholarship in the research bibliography. |        |      |           |
| Is the documentation effective, accurate, and complete? | • The paper documents evidence with effective and appropriate citations.  
• The notes and bibliography are complete, accurate, and follow established style guidelines. |        |      |           |
| Is the writing clear and effective? | • The paper deploys paraphrasing and quotations effectively and appropriately.  
• The prose is compelling and engaging with well-phrased, grammatically correct sentences that vary in length and structure, and are linked by smooth and effective transitions.  
• Ideas are arranged logically and flow smoothly and coherently from one point to another. |        |      |           |

### OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF SLO4 (Historical Interpretation)

Revised 1/24/2018  
Student name ___________________________