

NECHE Assessment E1A Form | Institution Name: Boston College

General Information

1

Program Name: Islamic Civilization & Societies

2

Program's Assessment Contact

Name: Kathleen Bailey

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3

Unit/Department/Program Attributes – *indicate with an "X"*

☒ x

Academic/curricular unit/department/program

☐

Co-curricular (student affairs-, mission and ministry-related) unit/department/program

☐

Competency-based education program

☐

Distance education program

☐

Program is managed by contractual arrangement

4

Date of last program review May 13, 2025

5

Date of next expected program review: May 13, 2026

6

Did your program engage in any assessment activities during academic year 2024-2025? – *indicate with an "X"*

☒ x

Yes

☐

No

7 Degree Level Being Assessed (if applicable) – *indicate with an “X”*

☐

Associate’s degree

☐

Certificate program

☒

Bachelor’s degree

☐

Master’s degree

☐

Doctoral degree

8 Where are the learning outcomes published? (mark all that apply) – *indicate with an “X”*

☒

Catalog

☐

Syllabus

☒

Website

☐

Curriculum map

9 Which learning outcome(s) was assessed during academic year 2024-25?

1. conduct scholarly research at the undergraduate level, including submission of the senior thesis, which must be approved by a faculty committee;
2. demonstrate intermediate level of proficiency in at least one relevant language, such as Arabic, Hebrew, Turkish or Farsi;
3. think analytically, write cogently, and speak clearly about the Greater Middle East and Islamic world

Assessment Information

10 What type(s) of evidence were gathered to assess the outcome? (mark all that apply) – *indicate with an “X”*

☐

Artistic exhibition/performance

☒

Assignment/exam/paper completed as part of regular coursework (i.e., an embedded

☐

Capstone course work product

☒

Course evaluation question(s)

☐

Exam created by an external organization (e.g., professional association for licensure)

☐

Exit exam created by the unit/program

☐

Focus groups/interviews with alumni

☒

Focus groups/interviews with current students

☐

IRB-approved research project

☐

Oral performance (oral defense, oral presentation, conference presentation)

☐

Portfolio of student work

☐

Publication or grant proposal (prepared, not dependent upon acceptance)

☐

Qualifying or comprehensive exam (typically applicable to graduate level programs)

☐

Reflection exercise engaged in by student (journal, assignment, discussion session)

☐

Survey of alumni

☐

Survey of current students

(in place 2026)

☐

Supervisor or employer evaluation of student performance outside of the classroom

☒

Thesis or dissertation

☐

Other

11 How was the evidence reviewed/analyzed? (mark all that apply) – *indicate with an “X”*

☒ x

Compiled narrative results (e.g., interview, focus group, or open-ended data)

☐

Compiled survey results

☐

BC’s Institutional Research office analyzed and supplied the evidence

☐

External organization responsible for evidence (e.g., a licensing exam organization)

☐

Used a rubric or scoring guide

☒ x

Used professional judgment (i.e., no rubric or scoring guide was used)

☐

Review/analysis is pending

☐

Other

12 Who took part in assessing the evidence? (mark all that apply) – *indicate with an “X”*

☒ x

Full-time faculty

☒ x

Part-time/Adjunct faculty

☐

Current students

☐

Employers and/or Advisory Boards

☐

Deans/Associate Deans

☐

Unit/Program-based Curriculum Committee

☐

Unit/Program-based Assessment Committee

13 How will the assessment results/findings be used? (mark all that apply) – *indicate with an “X”*

☐

Assessment procedure changes (e.g., changes to learning outcomes, rubrics)

☐

Course changes (e.g., changes to course content, assignments, pedagogy)

☐

Program changes (e.g., structure of retreat or volunteer program)

☐

Program policy changes

☐

Students' out-of-class experience changes (e.g., changes to advising, career workshops)

☒

Assessment results indicate that no actions are needed because students attained the outcome

☐

Pending – we are not yet sure how the assessment results will be used

14 Please describe what was yielded from the assessment in terms of how students attained/achieved the learning outcome(s). That is, given the interpretation of the results/findings, what were the major takeaways regarding student learning?

1. An updated senior thesis research guide is under development;
2. We hope to change the name of the major from ICS to Middle East & Islamic Studies to be more in line with our peer programs and for a clearer representation of the major;
3. More opportunities for summer study abroad are needed, especially language (Arabic) and volunteer service opportunities in the Middle East.