

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
WSU Department School of Computing
Web and User Experience
Self-Study Document, Fall 2018

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The following is a summary of the self-study document, highlighting important points. For complete information, please refer to the full, self-study document itself.

Mission Statement:

The primary goal of the Web and User Experience program is to deliver students the highest quality undergraduate experience that will prepare students for employment in the areas of web development and user experience design, and to assume roles in decision making, leadership, research, and service to community and business.

These programs assist students in developing, communicating, and applying knowledge for the technical and professional world as well as gaining a desire for lifelong learning.

The primary goal of the College of Engineering, Applied Science and Technology is to implement the mission of Weber State University and to prepare students for employment upon graduation by ensuring that they are productive, accountable, and responsible individuals able to function effectively in today's workplace. This goal is achieved by developing in students a cohesive, solid theoretical foundation bolstered by practical, hands-on experiences. The learning environment is further enhanced by extensive contact between faculty and students both in and out of the classroom. In addition, the liberal education component present in all programs equips students for lifelong learning in a

Curriculum:

Since the last program review the program has undergone many changes. It has gone from a program in Business Multimedia to Web and User Experience. This was revised to give students more advanced skillset for modern technology.

Students create websites in the Web 1400 course which is a prerequisite for most of the other courses. As students continue through the curriculum, they will be encouraged to save projects they have worked on for inclusion in the capstone projects – the portfolio for the Associates Degree (Web 2890) and the web dev course (Web 4350). The portfolio course will offer students a chance to reflect on their work and improve upon their previously completed projects with their more advanced skill set. Students in the web dev course will work with a client to create a fully functioning web site, also allowing students to apply their skills.

As suggested by the goals of the College, many courses are project based. The capstone courses include presentation to faculty. Students are evaluated by faculty as well as industry professionals. This evaluation provides meaningful feedback for students and encourages them to include their best work.

Department/Program Learning
Outcomes

Core Courses in Department/Program

| | Department/Program Learning Outcomes | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Effective Business Communication Skills | Technology Knowledge and Skills | Effective Decision-Making and Problem-solving skills | Knowledge of Ethics and Professionalism | Industry-standard projects |
| Core Courses in Department/Program | | | | | |
| CS 2550 - Introduction to Database Design and SQL | | A | A | | |
| WEB 3200 – Dynamic Languages for Web Development | | I | E | E | I |
| WEB 3300 – Motion Graphics | | E | | | U |
| WEB 3400 – LAMP Stack Web Development | I | U | U | I | A |
| WEB 3410 – Web Animation II | | E | | | U |
| WEB 3430 – MEAN Stack Web Development | E | A | A | U | A |
| WEB 3500 – User Interface Prototyping & Design | U | E | U | E | E |

2012-2015, The faculty remained confident in student's success and seeing them excel in the program learning outcomes. The majority of the ratings from the employers were in the highest category, and no student interns received a poor rating. During this time, the program was looking for additional funding for full-time faculty, building more advanced courses to increase students' knowledge, making artifacts more accessible to students, and finding a balance in lower- and upper-division courses to help student success. Also, they focused on evaluating scheduling to meet student needs better, looking into possible means to increase scholarship and internship opportunities for students, and finding additional ways to increase enrollments.

2015-2016, The faculty started the process of moving the curriculum from a more general multimedia program to a new WEB/UX degree program which would begin in 2017. This new program would start a new assessment process as the curriculum changed. We worked towards assessing students with direct evaluations of portfolios at both AAS and BS levels. All graduating students were required to have an exit interview with a faculty member before being signed off for graduation. All graduates were also be invited back one year after graduation to serve on the program Alumni Advisory Board.

2016-2017, We had more changes in curriculum and wanted to focus on helping the remaining 40 students graduate under the old Business Multimedia program. The transition of assessing the new WEB/UX curriculum and outcomes continued, as the older program assessment was phased out. We anticipated assessing students with a direct evaluation of portfolios and noticed deficiencies in several (current) web technology skills for students who graduated. The assessment again informed our decisions to adjust curriculum and outcomes beginning with the 2017 catalog.

The program has grown in the past five years. During this time we have made significant adjustments to the program to better prepare and assess our students for current technology. Technology in this area has changed dramatically in the past five years. Major curriculum changes reflect those changes. We have adjusted some content in continuing courses from the previous Business Multimedia program and have created new courses which cover more employable/advanced skillsets. We continue to see an increase in enrollments, and we continue to improve the way students are assessed as we prepare them for careers in the Web/UX industry.

Assessment of Graduating Students

During the past five years, a lot has changed with the program. When the program was Business Multimedia, students were assessed both at the AAS and BS level through the Internship. One decision made by faculty was to require all graduating students to create a portfolio. The internship has become an elective. This change explains the decrease in numbers located in Appendix G for learning outcomes. As we move forward with the revised Web and User Experience program student portfolios will be evaluated at both the

AAS and BS level. All graduating students will continue to be required to have an exit interview with a faculty member before being signed off for graduation.

Academic Advising:

With the inclusion of the Web and User Experience program into The School of Computing, we have gained resources to help our advising strategy and process. The School of Computing operates on three separate campuses, and each campus has designated advising personnel as well as assigned advising for each program. The Web and User Experience advising is primarily on the main campus in Ogden. We have three people responsible for advising: Ms. Pat DeJong, Mr. Cody Squadroni, and Dr. Laura MacLeod. Pat is the primary advisor for Computer Science, Web and User Experience, and Networking. Cody is the current Web and User Experience Program Coordinator and, with that role, advises students who are in the Web and User Experience program. Dr. Laura MacLeod is also available to advise new students but focuses on advising students who are finishing the Business and Multimedia program. Both Cody and Laura help students who wish to transition from the old degree to the new.

Faculty / Staff:

| Name | Rank | Degree |
|--------------------------|------|--------|
| Al-Gahmi, Abdulmal -15Mr | | |

Student, Faculty, Contract/Adjunct Faculty and Staff Statistics:

2013-14 2014-15 2015-

Information Regarding Current Review Team Members:

| Name | Position | Affiliation |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Jo Ellen Jonsson | Associate Professor | WSU College of EAST |