

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department of Elementary & Secondary Education

HB Section(s): 2.070

Missouri Scholars Academy (MSA)

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Missouri Scholars and Fine Arts Academies

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Success-Ready Students & Workplace Development

1b. What does this program do?

The Missouri Scholars Academy is a three-week residential program for Missouri's students who are academically gifted and ready to begin their junior year in high school. The Academy is a specialized program held on the University of Missouri - Columbia campus. The mission of the Missouri Scholars Academy is to offer unique opportunities for students for learning and personal development that cannot be provided or achieved through curriculum and instruction in a traditional high school environment. The Academy is designed to allow students with precious intellectual abilities to flourish with peers and assist these students with realizing their full potential. The scholars represent the top 0.5% of the students in the state and are selected based on IQ, standardized test scores, high school GPA, student essays, and letters of recommendation. Students join with a carefully selected faculty and staff to experience specially designed interdisciplinary curriculum that focuses on creativity, critical thinking, and problem solving. Further, social-emotional curriculum was designed specifically for the scholars and extra-curricular activities are carefully planned to provide students with as many opportunities as possible in three weeks.

2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program.

	FY 2018**		FY 2019		FY 2020**		FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Projected	Projected
Missouri Scholars Academy participants	0	0	330	328	330	0	330	330	330

Note: These numbers reflect high participation rates throughout the years.

** In FY 2018 there was no appropriation funding for Missouri Fine Arts Academy and funding in FY 2020 was restricted. In response to COVID-19 the 2020 Academy was a volunteer virtual event. A handful of teachers and resident assistants (RAs) created a virtual event for identified scholars. Of the 330 identified scholars, 240 participated in an online distance event. The teachers and RAs volunteered their time to provide this experience.

2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.

Comments from the Scholars:

"I have realized new trajectories for my potential and now truly do believe that I am never too young to make a difference."

"MSA has changed my life."

"MSA helped me come to terms with a lot of personal things, and I am to immensely thankful for that."

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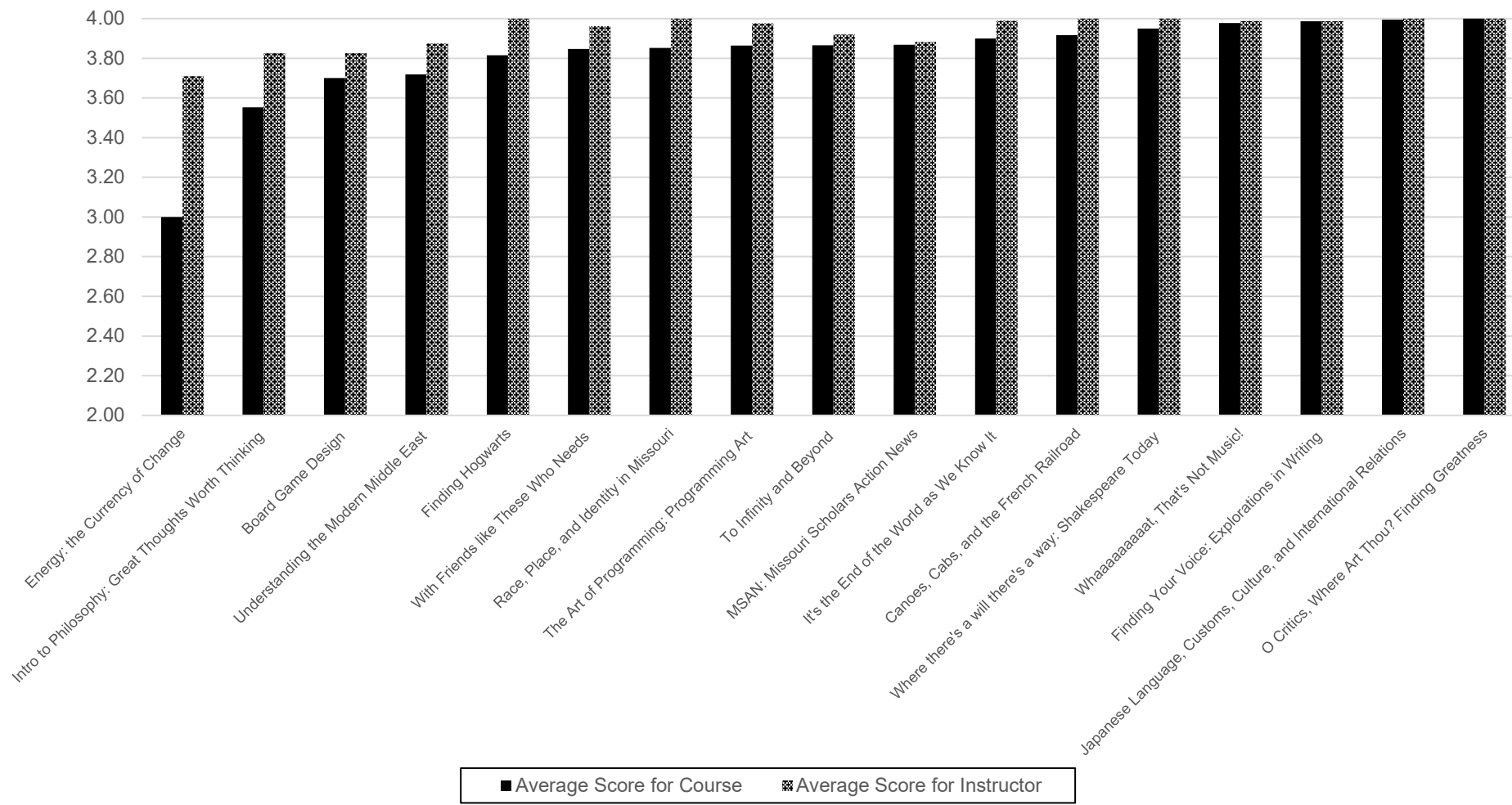
Department of Elementary & Secondary Education

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Academic Major



* This data is from 2019, as there was not any data collected at the 2020 volunteer virtual event.

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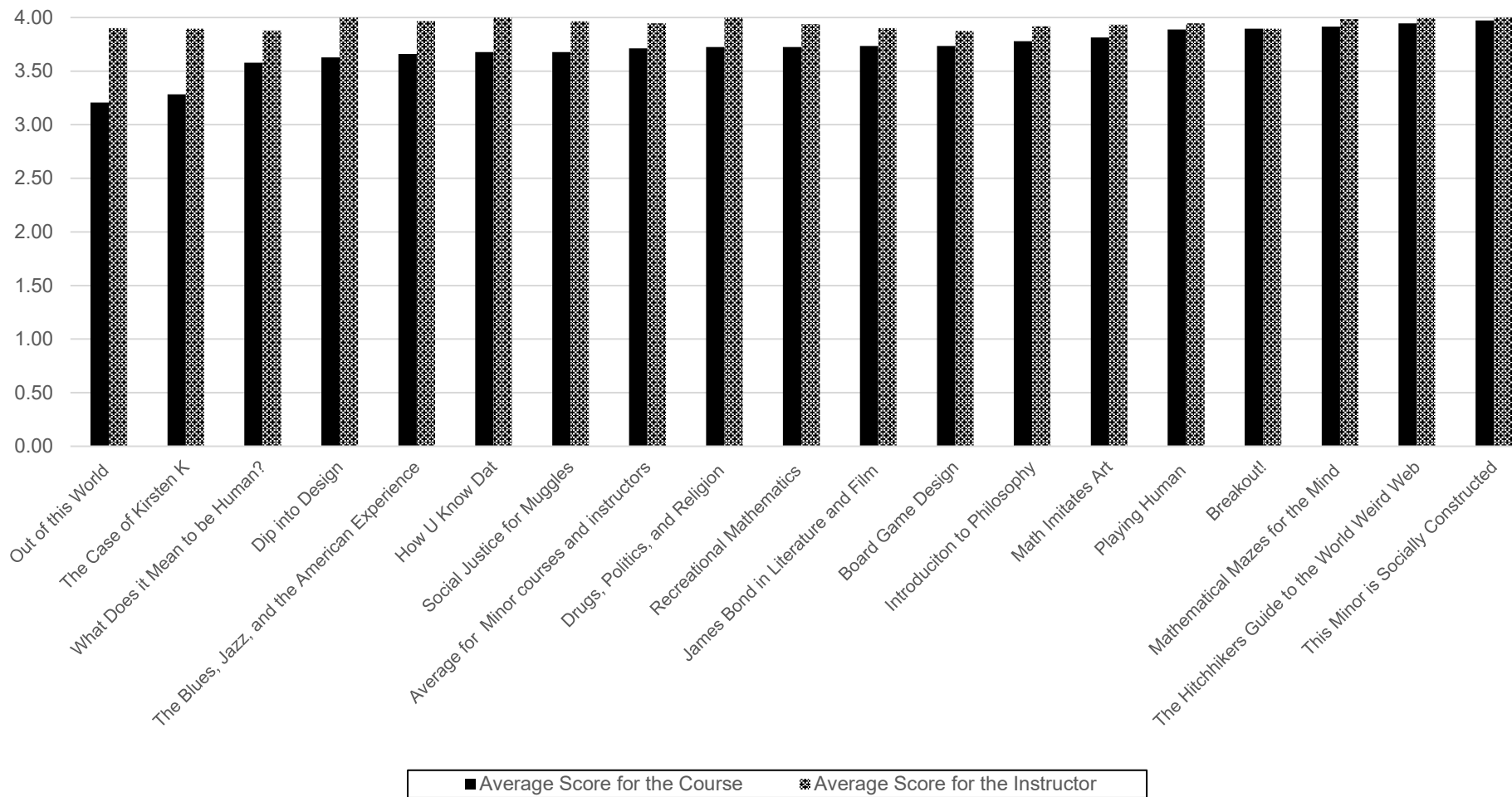
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Academic Minor



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2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.

Missouri Scholars Academy has impacted 11,220 scholars who grow up to be entrepreneurs, academics, professionals, and even state policy makers. Their impact can be seen around the state. The Scholars positively impact the Academy by encouraging students to apply for and participate in the Academy and many Scholars return as resident assistants and faculty. Scholars begin making a difference immediately in their communities and high schools. As one scholar said, "It's rare for a 16 year old to feel like they have the ability to make the world a better place but that is how I, as well as many scholars who attended Missouri Scholars Academy feel. I believe everyone had a different moment that led to this mindset. For me it was my sociology minor that expanded the way I view gender, society, race, the economy, and more. Not only do I now have more knowledge and a new mindset I know is not attainable from anywhere else, but I can bring everything I learned at MSA to my own high school. Thank you MSA for the most eye opening three weeks of my life." - 2019 Scholar

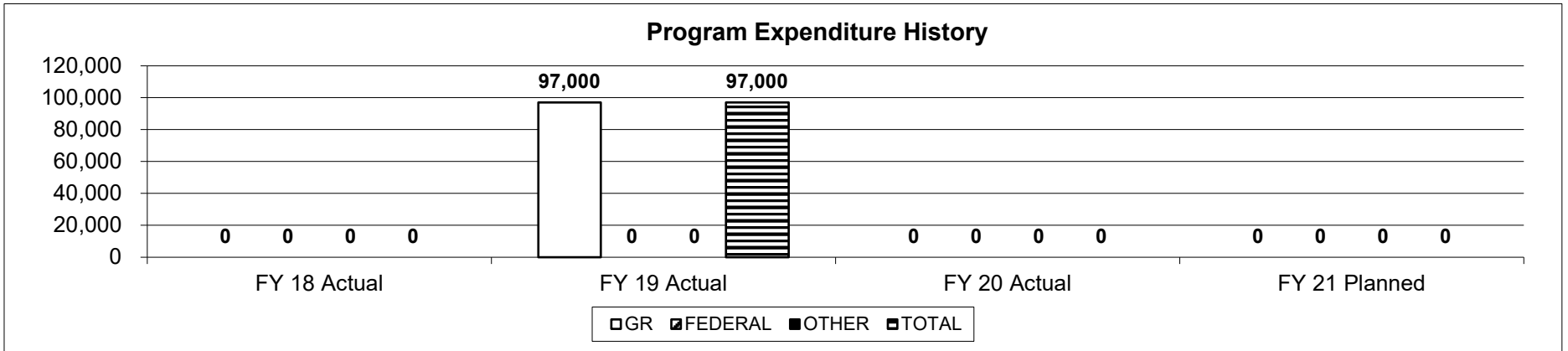
2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.

The Missouri Scholars Academy achieves excellence while managing costs responsibly. In the previous year's parent survey of the MSA participants, 97% reported that family expenses associated with MSA were "about the right amount", "definitely worth the expense" or "a bargain". The work of the Academy continues throughout the following academic year, as the team reviews all written feedback and suggestions within the responses of the open-ended items in the MSA's survey data. The Missouri Scholars Academy is reviewing and refreshing curriculum and the program components through collaboration, and with stakeholders and experts in the field. A Model program for targeted investment, MSA leaders model the intentionality conscientiousness, and problem-solving that will help students to persevere and succeed for years to come. The Academy has a history of expending 100% of the appropriation each year for the past 6 years.

* This data is from 2019, as there was not any data collected at the 2020 volunteer virtual event.

3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. (Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.)

Program Expenditure History



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4. What are the sources of the "Other " funds?

N/A

5. What is the authorization for this program, i.e., federal or state statute, etc.? (Include the federal program number, if applicable.)

H.B. Section 2.031

6. Are there federal matching requirements? If yes, please explain.

No.

7. Is this a federally mandated program? If yes, please explain.

No.