### UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON ASSESSMENT ACTIVITY FORM

**PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT**  
**ACADEMIC YEAR: 2003-04**

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**Outcome 4. Philosophical research:** Graduating Philosophy majors will be able to use various print and electronic sources of information effectively when doing philosophical research. (Such sources may include catalogues, books, periodicals, databases, indexes, encyclopedias, and bibliographies.) Graduating majors will also be able to evaluate and analyze information gathered from a variety of sources in the course of their philosophical research.

- **Measure 1:** Students will complete a two-part workshop, required for PHL 240, on philosophical research. Completion of the workshop entails production of a satisfactory annotated bibliography on an assigned research question. Students can repeat the workshop up to three times.

- **Measure 2:** Instructors for the 400-level seminars each term will report on each Philosophy major’s philosophical research skills. Students who receive positive reports in at least three seminars will be considered to have demonstrated appropriate research skills. Seminar reports each year will indicate that 80% of graduating majors have demonstrated these skills.

- **Measure 3:** Exit surveys of graduating majors will show that 80% agree or strongly agree that they have gained the stated abilities in philosophical research.

Measure 1: Since the research-skills workshop is being phased in, papers submitted by graduating majors were reviewed for research skills. 83% [n=5] of graduating majors submitted papers demonstrated appropriate research skills.

Measure 2: 83% [n=5] of graduating majors received positive reports on their research skills in at least two seminars. [Note: there are not yet data for all four seminars, as the new assessment plan is being phased in.]

Measure 3: 67% [n=4] of graduating majors agree or strongly agree that the major has improved their ability to use print and electronic sources of information effectively. 100% [n=6] agree or strongly agree that the major has improved their ability to evaluate and analyze information gathered from a variety of sources.