

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM SUMMARY FORM

B.A. in Religious Studies

Date: May 2005

Chair: Sandra Yocum-Mize

Assessment Committee: V. Branick, J. Martin

Part I: Departmentally Chosen Outcomes

Outcome 1. Students will be able to analyze in a historical and critical manner expressions of thought and belief in one major religious tradition.

Measure 1. A committee of faculty members will evaluate papers, exams or other written assignments of graduating seniors. Each will agree that 90 percent have achieved this outcome. [Papers from capstone courses collected into electronic portfolios will be used for this measurement.]

Measure 2. Exit interviews with the department chair will show that at least 80 percent will express agreement that the outcome has been achieved.

Outcome 2. Students will demonstrate basic knowledge of at least two faith traditions

Measure 1. Examination of students records and course syllabi will confirm that at least 75 percent of graduating majors have taken a course which expresses such a perspective and of these 90 percent achieved a grade of at least C. [Courses

focused on non-Catholic traditions include 103, 300, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 326, 327.]

Measure 2. At exit interviews with the department chair at least 80 percent of pending graduates will express agreement that the outcome has been achieved.

Outcome 3. Students in the Catholic Schools and Ministry Tracks will have adequate academic preparation to be able to teach religion in an elementary school (grades K-8) or work within local church programs.

Measure 1. Results from a questionnaire submitted to schools and churches that have hired our graduates will confirm that in at least 90 percent of cases, they were satisfactorily prepared.

Measure 2. A review of transcripts will verify that all graduates have taken at least one course and received a grade of at least C in each of the four departmental sub-areas (i.e., biblical studies, historical theology, systematic theology, and Christian ethics/religion and culture).

Outcome 4. Students in the Graduate School Track and the World Religions Track will be qualified to enter a Master=s level program in Religious Studies or Theology if they so

choose.

Measure 1. At least 80 percent of those who apply for such programs will be accepted.

Measure 2. Response from questionnaires sent every three years to students who are engaged in or have completed such programs will verify that at least 80 percent agree that they were satisfactorily prepared for those programs.

Outcome 5. Students who have taken service learning courses will be able to describe the relationship between their service and their religious course content.

Measure 1. A committee of faculty members will evaluate papers, exams, reflection papers and other written assignments collected in the portfolios of all graduating seniors. Each will agree that 90 percent have achieved this outcome.

Measure 2. Exit interviews with the Chair will confirm that at least 80 percent of the group will express agreement that the outcome has been achieved.

Part II: Graduation Competencies

Outcome 6. Students will be able to analyze, summarize and critique a book chapter or an article in a professional journal in theology, religious studies, religious education or pastoral ministry.

Measure 1. Examination of students= records and course syllabi will confirm that graduating majors have taken a courses at the 300-400 level receiving a grade of B or better where this activity was a requirement for the course.

Measure 2. Exit surveys of graduating Religious Studies majors will show that 80 percent of them agree or strongly agree that they have this competency.

Outcome 7. Students will be able to analyze a classic text, especially a sacred text, identifying especially its genre; its content and argument (if appropriate); its plot, characters, religious significance, etc. (if a narrative; and its social and historical context.

Measure 1. Examination of students= records and course syllabi will confirm that graduating majors have taken a courses at the 300-400 level receiving a grade of B or better where this activity was a requirement for the course.

Measure 2. Exit surveys of graduating Religious Studies majors will show that 80 percent of them agree or strongly agree that they have this competency.

Outcome 8. Students will be able to present and support a position on an issue in writing, taking account of arguments for and against the position supported and other relevant alternatives, demonstrating both analytic and synthetic abilities in a sustained, well-organized paper.

Measure 1. Examination of students' records and course syllabi will confirm that graduating majors have taken a course at the 300-400 level receiving a grade of B or better where this activity was a requirement for the course.

Measure 2. Exit surveys of graduating Religious Studies majors will show that 80 percent of them agree or strongly agree that they have this competency.

Outcome 9. Students will be able to communicate clearly the content of religiously or theologically significant resources in the context of a written presentation designed for a specific audience or purpose (e.g., class, parish, religious education program, sermon, pastoral team meeting, etc.).

Measure 1. Examination of students' records and course syllabi will confirm that graduating majors have taken a course at the 300-400 level receiving a grade of B or better where this activity was a requirement for the course.

Measure 2. Exit surveys of graduating Religious Studies majors will show that 80

percent of them agree or strongly agree that they have this competency.

Outcome 10. Students will be able to present orally a position on an issue, taking account of arguments for and against the position supported and other relevant alternatives. The position will demonstrate both analytic and synthetic abilities.

Measure 1. Examination of students= records and course syllabi will confirm that graduating majors have taken a courses at the 300-400 level receiving a grade of B or better where this activity was a requirement for the course.

Measure 2. Exit surveys of graduating Religious Studies majors will show that 80 percent of them agree or strongly agree that they have this competency.

Outcome 11. Students will be able to communicate clearly in an oral presentation the content of religiously or theologically significant resources in the context of a specific audience or purpose (e.g., class, parish religious education program, sermon, pastoral team meeting, etc.)

Measure 1. Examination of students= records and course syllabi will confirm that graduating majors have taken a courses at the 300-400 level receiving a grade of B or better where this activity was a requirement for the course.

Measure 2. Exit surveys of graduating Religious Studies majors will show that 80 percent of them agree or strongly agree that they have this competency.

Outcome 12. Students will be able to use and evaluate informational resources including diverse standard reference works, such as theological databases, journals, newspapers, magazines, television, radio, and the internet (e.g. Religion Index, Catholic Periodical Index).

Measure 1. Examination of students records and course syllabi will confirm that graduating majors have taken a courses at the 300-400 level receiving a grade of B or better where this activity was a requirement for the course.

Measure 2. Exit surveys of graduating Religious Studies majors will show that 80 percent of them agree or strongly agree that they have this competency.

Outcome 13. Students will be able to format a standard research report/paper using the Chicago Manual of Style (Turabian).

Measure 1. Examination of students= records and course syllabi will confirm that graduating majors have taken a courses at the 300-400 level receiving a grade of B or better where this activity was a requirement for the course.

Measure 2. Exit surveys of graduating Religious Studies majors will show that 80 percent of them agree or strongly agree that they have this competency.

Outcome 14. Students will be able to present a communication effectively using electronic and non-electronic media, e.g., an effective chart, overhead, Powerpoint or its analogue. Graduating majors will be able to deal with communication situations in schools and parishes which are and are not electronically up-to-date.

Measure 1. Examination of students= records and course syllabi will confirm that graduating majors have taken a courses at the 300-400 level receiving a grade of B or better where this activity was a requirement for the course. [Such courses include Rel 324]

Measure 2. Exit surveys of graduating Religious Studies majors will show that 80 percent of them agree or strongly agree that they have this competency.