**Philosophy M.A. Assessment Plan**

Richard Richards, Chair of Philosophy

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The Philosophy M.A. Assessment plan will be an extension of the assessment plan of our B.A. degree, but with its own distinctive set of Student Learning Outcomes and Rubrics. Each student learning outcome will be assessed at the end of each academic year in our PHL 5XX Capstone Course. This course will require of each student 1) an independent project with a written component, and 2) an exam that will demonstrate skills and knowledge relative to each Student Learning Outcome. Rubrics for the written portion of the independent project will be developed based on our current rubrics for the undergraduate degree (B.A.). Our Assessment Coordinator will supervise the collection and analysis of the date.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs)**

**SLO 1: Conceptual Foundations**

At the end of the degree program, and depending on concentration, students will be able to:

Evaluate competing **conceptions** about fundamental things and processes, such as health and disease, the nature of law and morality, and the mind and brain.

Measure: Essays and exams in the PHL 5XX Capstone course taught each Spring Semester

Details/Description: The instructor of the course will evaluate the student essays relative to each of the SLOs, while exams in the course will include specific questions designed to assess the students relative to each SLO.

Expectation of Achievement: At least 80% of the students in the course should meet or exceed expectations by scoring 80% or better on the selected questions. On the essay rubrics for the SLOs, at least 80% of the students should average a 2.5 or better (out of 3).

Schedule for Data Collection: Each spring in the PHL 5XX Capstone course.

Key Personnel: Course instructors will report to department Assessment Coordinator.

**SLO 2: Theoretical Frameworks**

At the end of the degree program, and depending on concentration, students will be able to:

Evaluate the competing **theoretical frameworks** that govern our practices and inquiries, such as what we see in medicine, the law, and brain sciences.

Measure: Essays and exams in the PHL 5XX Capstone course taught each Spring Semester

Details/Description: The instructor of the course will evaluate the student essays relative to each of the SLOs, while exams in the course will include specific questions designed to assess the students relative to each SLO.

Expectation of Achievement: At least 80% of the students in the course should meet or exceed expectations by scoring 80% or better on the selected questions. On the essay rubrics for the SLOs, at least 80% of the students should average a 2.5 or better (out of 3).

Schedule for Data Collection: Each spring in the PHL 5XX Capstone course.

Key Personnel: Course instructors will report to department Assessment Coordinator.

**SLO 3: Evidence**

At the end of the degree program, and depending on concentration, students will be able to:

Analyze and compare the different kinds of **evidence** employed to support empirical and theoretical claims, such as what we see in medical diagnoses and claims about effectiveness, legal claims and judgments, scientific claims, and hypotheses about mental and brain processes.

Measure: Essays and exams in the PHL 5XX Capstone course taught each Spring Semester

Details/Description: The instructor of the course will evaluate the student essays relative to each of the SLOs, while exams in the course will include specific questions designed to assess the students relative to each SLO.

Expectation of Achievement: At least 80% of the students in the course should meet or exceed expectations by scoring 80% or better on the selected questions. On the essay rubrics for the SLOs, at least 80% of the students should average a 2.5 or better (out of 3).

Schedule for Data Collection: Each spring in the PHL 5XX Capstone course.

Key Personnel: Course instructors will report to department Assessment Coordinator.

**SLO 4: Ethical Problems**

At the end of the degree program, and depending on concentration, students will be able to:

Analyze the **ethical problems** confronting us in our professional practices, such as what we see in the practice of medicine, the practice of law, and psychological investigation.

Measure: Essays and exams in the PHL 5XX Capstone course taught each Spring Semester

Details/Description: The instructor of the course will evaluate the student essays relative to each of the SLOs, while exams in the course will include specific questions designed to assess the students relative to each SLO.

Expectation of Achievement: At least 80% of the students in the course should meet or exceed expectations by scoring 80% or better on the selected questions. On the essay rubrics for the SLOs, at least 80% of the students should average a 2.5 or better (out of 3).

Schedule for Data Collection: Each spring in the PHL 5XX Capstone course.

Key Personnel: Course instructors will report to department Assessment Coordinator.

**SLO 5: Political Issues**

At the end of the degree program, and depending on concentration, students will be able to:

Analyze the **political** **issues** that arise, particularly relative to the institutions and authorities that govern our practices, such as what we see in medicine, law and psychology.

Measure: Essays and exams in the PHL 5XX Capstone course taught each Spring Semester

Details/Description: The instructor of the course will evaluate the student essays relative to each of the SLOs, while exams in the course will include specific questions designed to assess the students relative to each SLO.

Expectation of Achievement: At least 80% of the students in the course should meet or exceed expectations by scoring 80% or better on the selected questions. On the essay rubrics for the SLOs, at least 80% of the students should average a 2.5 or better (out of 3).

Schedule for Data Collection: Each spring in the PHL 5XX Capstone course.

Key Personnel: Course instructors will report to department Assessment Coordinator.

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|  | SLO 1 Conceptual Foundations | SLO 2  Theoretical Frameworks | SLO 3  Evidence | SLO 4  Ethical Problems | SLO 5  Political Issues |
| PHL 5XX Proseminar | I | I | I | I | I |
| PHL 5XX  Concentration Courses | R | R | R | R | R |
| PHL 5XX  Capstone | M & A | M & A | M & A | M & A | M & A |