

# Program Assessment Report 2016-2017

**Program:** Philosophy

## Program Learning Description

Program Goal IV: Students will acquire the abilities to read, evaluate and respond critically to intellectual material from any discipline.

**Identify the artifact(s) (i.e. student work or outputs) that you used to assess the PLO. [Projects, papers, presentations, portfolios, exam questions, specific assignments, capstone work]**

Exam questions, Discussion board posts.

## Other artifact(s)

**Identify the instruments (e.g. rubrics, surveys, spreadsheets, statistical software) used to assess the artifact(s) (i.e. the way in which student output are analyzed).**

The tools used to assess these instruments were standard rubrics for the assignments in question (clarity of expression, coherence of argumentation, attentiveness to evidence, thoroughness of analysis, consistency and plausibility of claims, and philosophical rigor).

## Other instruments Used

Papers

**Describe program collaboration to plan, implement and use the results of assessment.**

**Explain the results of the assessment activities.**

**Where applicable, outline the steps you will take to make improvements to the program based on the results of assessment activities identified in #3.**

Students showed highly positive results in the area of Goal 4, namely to read, evaluate, and respond critically to intellectual material from any disciplines. Students displayed and presented fair treatment to views and values present in intellectual materials from other disciplines (including the Natural Sciences, Literature, and Theology). Students learned to identify the main thesis in any discourse and to evaluate its supporting evidence. Students detected well presuppositions, value judgments and generalizations, and to evaluate their implications. The assessment results shows students' sense of the larger implications of a philosopher's work and displays skill in drafting those implications into evidentiary service. This points to genuine success, at the level of the Philosophy Program, in realizing our stated Student Learning Outcomes.

**Are there any new resources needed to create program improvements? If so, please include the resources that you will request in the Budget section of the Annual Report.**

This cycle of assessment indicated very positive results. Faculty are nevertheless encouraged to consider the results as they plan and augment course descriptions and evaluation methods.