

Master of Arts (Philosophy)

Spring 2024

SLOs reflect the recommendations of the 2022 Jury

ATS Degree Program Goals for Standard D Degrees – The goals an institution adopts for these degree programs should include the attainment of a survey knowledge of various theological disciplines, or focused knowledge in a specific discipline, or interdisciplinary knowledge. Achievement of student learning outcomes for these degrees shall contribute to meeting these programmatic goals.

Alignment to Mission Statement: Proclamation

Student Learning Objective 1: Students will demonstrate their understanding of biblical, theological, and historical truth from a philosophical perspective.

Measures	Baseline	Results Last Year/Improvement	New Benchmark(s)	Action Plan Steps Recommended in 2024
<u>Direct measure(s)</u> Embedded Assignments PHIL 6330 History of Western Philosophy (15-pg Position Paper)	<u>Direct measure(s)</u> 3.00 out of 4.00	<u>Direct measure(s)</u> Fall 2022: 3.1 out of 4.0 Slightly exceeded benchmark.	<u>Direct measure(s)</u> Keep benchmark in place while exploring new rubric.	<u>Direct measure(s)</u> Develop a rubric to score the assignment for assessment purposes and for use as a course assignment grading rubric – Dr. Anderson will develop in Fall 2024.
<u>Indirect measure(s)</u> Graduating Student Questionnaire Questions 18b, 18u 18b. How effective was your education at facilitating your ability to use and interpret Scripture? 18u. How effective was your education at facilitating your knowledge of Christian philosophy?	<u>Indirect measure(s)</u> 3.5 out of 5.00	<u>Indirect measure(s)</u> 18b Sp 2022: 5.0 (5) F 2022: 4.63 (24) Sp 2023: 4.9 (16) F 2023: 4.0 (2) OVERALL: 4.6325 18u Sp 2022: 4.4 (5) F 2022: 4.32 (24) Sp 2023: 4.5 (16) F 2023: 5.0 (2)	<u>Indirect measure(s)</u> 4.0 out of 5.0 Benchmark was easily surpassed for all semesters. Raise benchmark and continue to monitor student satisfaction.	<u>Indirect measure(s)</u> Continue providing excellent teaching and leadership in Philosophy courses and degree plan. Monitor student satisfaction via GSQ.

		OVERALL: 4.555		
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Student Learning Objective 2: Students will demonstrate critical and constructive application of philosophical concepts and perspectives in research and writing

Alignment to Mission Statement: Proclamation

Measures	Baseline	Results Last Year/ Improvement	New Benchmark(s)	Action Plan Steps Recommended in 2024
<u>Direct measure(s)</u> THSE6300 Theological Research and Writing Summative Assignment, rubric items (3) Thesis/Structure; and (4) Argument/Response	<u>Direct measure(s)</u> 3.00 out of 4.00	<u>Direct measure(s)</u> (3) Fall 2023 – 3.7 (4) Fall 2023 – 3.8 Benchmark clearly exceeded.	<u>Direct measure(s)</u> 3.25/4.0 Given the nature of the course and assignment, it is reasonable to expect higher attainment.	<u>Direct measure(s)</u> Develop grading rubric for THSE 6300 faculty to utilize for course grade and program assessment: Dr. Anderson develop Summer 2024 to deliver to Dr. Bandy (faculty of record for THSE 6300) for use in Fall 2024.
<u>Indirect measure(s)</u> Graduating Student Questionnaire Questions 18r, 18s	<u>Indirect measure(s)</u> 3.5 out of 5.0	<u>Indirect measure(s)</u> 18r Sp 2022: 5.0 (5) F 2022: 4.67 (24) Sp 2023: 4.6 (16) F 2023: 5.0 (2)	<u>Indirect measure(s)</u> 4.0 out of 5.0 Benchmark was easily	<u>Indirect measure(s)</u> Continue providing excellent teaching and leadership in Philosophy courses and degree

18r. How effective was your education at facilitating your ability to think theologically? 18s. How effective was your education at facilitating your ability to integrate insights from science into theology and ministry?		OVERALL: 4.8175 18s Sp 2022: 4.0 (5) F 2022: 4.35 (24) Sp 2023: 4.7 (16) F 2023: 4.5 (2) OVERALL: 4.3875	surpassed for all semesters. Raise benchmark substantially and continue to monitor student satisfaction.	plan. Monitor student satisfaction via GSQ.
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Student Learning Objective 3: Students will demonstrate personal and spiritual maturity as Christian philosophers.

Alignment to Mission Statement: Servanthood and Devotion

Measures	Baseline	Results Last Year/ Improvement	New Benchmark(s)	Action Plan Steps Recommended in 2024
<u>Direct measure(s)</u> <i>Embedded Assignments</i> - PHIL 6301 Philosophical Theology Term Paper - DISC 5300 Discipleship & Spiritual Formation embedded assignment	<u>Direct measure(s)</u> 3.00 out of 4.00 3.00 out of 4.00	<u>Direct measure(s)</u> Sp23: 3.2 out of 4.0 Benchmark exceeded. F22 NOLA: 8.59/10 F22 OnL: 8.56/10 Sp23 OnL: 7.97/10 Su23 OnL: 6.86/10 F23 Hyb: 9.53/10 Avg: 8.30/10 – 3.32/4	<u>Direct measure(s)</u> Benchmark exceeded. Keep at 3.0 out of 4.0. Benchmark slightly exceeded if calculation is correct.	<u>Direct measure(s)</u> Revise PHIL 6301 embedded assignment to incorporate personal application. Develop a rubric to serve Program Assessment and class grading. Assessment jury recommends removing DISC 5300 as a direct measure, because without disaggregated data it does not effectively measure student progress toward the SLO within the M.A (Philosophy).
<u>Indirect measure(s)</u> <i>Graduating Student Questionnaire</i> Questions 17k, 18i, 23f	<u>Indirect measures(s)</u> 3.5 out of 5.00	<u>Indirect measures(s)</u> 17k Sp 2022: 4.4 (5) F 2022: 4.71 (24) Sp 2023: 4.6 (16)	<u>Indirect measures(s)</u> 4.0 out of 5.0	<u>Indirect measure(s)</u> Continue providing excellent

17k. How effective was your program or degree in facilitating your Ability to live your faith in daily life?		F 2023: 3.5 (2) OVERALL: 4.3025	Benchmark was easily surpassed for all semesters. Raise benchmark and continue to monitor student satisfaction.	teaching and leadership in Philosophy courses and degree plan. Monitor student satisfaction via GSQ.
18i. How effective was your education in facilitating your ability to interact effectively with those of religious traditions other than your own?		18i Sp 2022: 4.2 (5) F 2022: 4.25 (24) Sp 2023: 4.4 (16) F 2023: 4.5 (2) OVERALL: 4.3375		
23f. In your overall experience during your graduate program, is your faith stronger than when you came?		23f Sp 2022: 4.8 (5) F 2022: 4.75 (24) Sp 2023: 4.9 (16) F 2023: 2.0 (2) OVERALL: 4.1125		

Executive Summary:

The M.A. (Philosophy) is still a relatively new degree plan at NOBTS, and its Assessment Map was just revised in Fall 2023. In addition, long-tenured professors in the discipline have recently retired, and the new program coordinator has been on faculty for just over a year. It is also worth mentioning that several assessment measures (e.g., all Direct Measures except the last one) have very limited data sets to compile and interpret. Hence, while it appears that all assessment benchmarks were met or exceeded, the changing context makes it difficult to draw any significant conclusions from the data.

As leadership of the MA(Phil) transitions, there are a number of actionable items stemming from this year's assessment process.

- (1) A grading rubric to be developed for the PHIL 6330 (History of Western Philosophy) embedded assignment. Responsible faculty: Program Coordinator (Dr. Anderson) in consultation with faculty of record (Dr. Dew and Professor Oakley).
- (2) A grading rubric to be developed for the THSE 6300 (Theological Research and Writing) embedded assignment. Responsible faculty: Faculty of record (Dr. Bandy) in consultation with MA(Phil) Program Coordinator (Dr. Anderson).
- (3) A grading rubric to be developed for the PHIL 6301 (Philosophical Theology) embedded assignment. Responsible faculty: Program Coordinator (Dr. Anderson) in consultation with faculty of record (Dr. Stewart).
- (4) Remove DISC 5300 embedded assignment as a direct measure for SLO #3.

