

Program of Study Learning Outcomes Assessment Report

Assessment Cycle	2020-2021
Program of Study	Bible & Theology
Department	Bible, Theology, & Ministry
Date of Departmental Approval	September 29, 2021
Name of Submitter	Joel Soza

Date of data distribution: September 22, 2021

PLO data from 2020-2021 (and existing data from the two previous academic years) for the program of study was distributed to departmental faculty on the date above

Date of meeting: September 29, 2021

The department met on the date above to discuss the data, identify key strengths and challenges, and to formulate action steps for responding to the challenges (i.e., for closing the loop over time).

The participants in the meeting were: Joel Soza, Bryan Hollon, TC Ham, and Marva Hoopes

Mission Statement: Affiliated with the Evangelical Friends tradition, the Malone University Department of Bible, Theology, & Ministry is rooted firmly in the protestant evangelical heritage of the historic, ecumenical, and Trinitarian Christian faith. We affirm the authority of the Bible as God's Word and are committed to the saving mission and ministry of Jesus Christ and his Church. Our distinctive mission is to provide theological education to women and men, enabling them to deepen and clarify their understanding of the Christian faith, cultivate and increase their love of God, and respond obediently to Christ's call to faithfulness, discipleship, and ministry.

Program Goals (these are broad goals rather than specific, measurable learning outcomes)

Goal 1: Students will demonstrate a basic knowledge of and ability to interpret and articulate the biblical story.

Goal 2: Students will demonstrate a basic knowledge of and ability to articulate central themes in Christian history, theology, and ethics.

Goal 3: Students will demonstrate a basic knowledge of and competence in the practice of Christian Ministry.

Goal 4: Students will cultivate habits of careful reading, critical thinking, research, writing, and speaking.

Key Strengths and Challenges in Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

Key Strength #1

Wording of PLO: *1A Know the “grand drama” of the biblical story including key persons, events, and themes.*

Brief summary of the evidence used to identify PLO as a key strength, including reference to the amount and quality of the evidence

A total of 11 students were assessed on a 9 point scale with an embedded assignment. 6 scored advanced, while 5 scored adequate, and none scored inadequate.

Key Strength #2

Wording of PLO: *1C Know the theological unity of the Christian biblical canon.*

Brief summary of the evidence used to identify PLO as a key strength, including reference to the amount and quality of the evidence

A total of 12 students were assessed on a 9 point scale with an embedded assignment. 11 scored advanced, 1 scored adequate, and 0 scored inadequate.

Key Challenge

Wording of PLO: *4C Evaluate texts and other scholarly sources for their quality.*

Brief summary of the evidence used to identify PLO as a key challenge, including reference to the amount and quality of the evidence

The only direct measure that did not meet its goal in our total department assessment for 2019-2020 (2020-2021 had skewed/inadequate data due to Covid 19) was here. 17% of the 12 students evaluated scored inadequate. This was an improvement from the 30% the previous year (2018-2019), but still needs improvement as our goal is 15% or less scoring inadequate. We are close and improving, but need some further action steps.

Proposed Action Steps

Continue to require research and academic papers in upper division courses with plenty of scholarly feedback provided. Use BIBL 201 (Hermeneutics) as the primary training grounds for research, writing, and scholarship.

Implications for Planning and Budgeting

Enter your mapping information in the [Mapping PLOs to MU Educational Goals](#) Google sheet