

Program of Study Learning Outcomes Assessment Report

Assessment Cycle	2020-2021
Department/Program	<u>General Education</u>
Date of Committee Approval	<u>October 8, 2021</u>
Name of Submitter	<u>Scott Waalkes, Director of General Education</u>

Dates of data distribution and meetings: 9-10-21, 9-24-21, and 10-8-21

The General Education Committee met on the dates above to discuss and interpret the results reported below. The Committee approved the text of this report on October 8, 2021.

Participants in these meetings were the members of the General Education Committee:

- Scott Waalkes, Chair
- Julia Frankland
- David Hahn
- Sheri Hartman
- Kate Huisinga
- Andy Reynolds

Mission Statement:

The mission of General Education is to develop wise and thoughtful students who are broadly educated in the liberal arts as well as in Christian scriptures and traditions to serve as faithful agents of transformation in the communities in which they live and work.

Program Goals:

As an academic institution in the Christian tradition of the Evangelical Friends Church, Malone is committed to intellectual enrichment in the context of Christian faith. We strive to provide an education that produces graduates with a love of truth and a vibrant, mature faith. Our intent is that students attain the wisdom, knowledge, and skills necessary to serve, engage, and transform the communities in which they live and work. To this end, we provide context in which to pursue the following educational goals.

- To help students understand the challenges, complexities, and opportunities of our changing world
- To help students cultivate critical and creative thinking, problem solving, and skillful interaction with knowledge and ideas
- To help students communicate effectively in multiple contexts
- To help students gain a grounding in Christian scriptures and tradition, and to provide them with additional opportunities for growth in self-knowledge and knowledge of God

Key Strengths and Challenges in Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

Key Type	PLO (Students will be able to...)
strength	Students will think critically and creatively (SLO B)
strength	Students will communicate effectively in multiple contexts (SLO C)
CHALLENGE	Students will understand the foundations of the Christian faith and the role of service to the church, community, and world and apply this knowledge to ethical and social issues (SLO D)

Proposed Action Steps in Response to the Challenge

1. In light of the shift toward increased use of adjunct faculty, the Gen Ed Committee would like to develop a concise, repeatable, and engaging “onboarding” process for adjunct faculty that orients them to the program and especially SLO D, which remains a challenge despite the improvement demonstrated in this report.
2. Continue the Component Review process and encourage adjunct and full-time faculty to complete the Instructor Response Form that reiterates the three Faith-Learning Shared Commitments.
3. Find ways to re-publicize the three Faith-Learning Shared commitments for all faculty, or at least those teaching in General Education. Continue a faculty-wide conversation about our shared outcomes and especially Outcome D.

Implications for Planning and Budgeting

1. Within the Gen Ed Program, develop onboarding materials for adjunct faculty.
2. Tapping resources from outside the Program:
 - a. Given the extensive resources devoted to the Faith-Learning Integration Seminar for New Full-Time Faculty, the University should consider developing a comparable, if smaller-scale program to orient adjunct faculty members to ways of integrating Faith and Learning. At a minimum, this **Faith-Learning Orientation** should occur for faculty teaching in General Education courses but could be extended more widely
 - b. The University could fund a Summer 2022 project to develop the onboarding materials (printed materials, videos, etc.) for adjunct faculty teaching General Education courses.