

Department Learning Outcomes Assessment Report

Assessment Cycle	2020-2021
Department	<u>Counseling and Psychology</u>
Date of Departmental Approval	<u>10/01/2021</u>
Name of Submitter	<u>Eb de Oliveira and Kara Kaelber, Chair</u>

Identify and describe the one best example of “closing the loop” from Step 0. Briefly document the following (in 1 or 2 sentences each):

1. The name of the program of study (e.g., Accounting): BA in Psychology
2. The exact wording of the specific PLO identified as a challenge:
Students will evidence reflection upon their reasons for studying psychology, their short-and long-term educational and career goals, and their intellectual, personal, and interpersonal strengths and weaknesses. They will also evidence the ability to reflect back on their undergraduate careers and describe continuity and change in these areas as well as plans for the future. Their reflections will exhibit an understanding of relations among faith, learning, and living.
3. A brief summary of the evidence used to identify the PLO as a challenge:
 In 2015 and 2016, only a small percentage of students (47 and 36, respectively) performed at a level that met expectations on Rubric Element # 4 (Reflection on connections among faith, learning, and living). The criterion chosen by the Faculty is at least 66%.
4. The specific action steps taken to address the challenge:
 The work of faculty across numerous courses, including PSYC230 (Sophomore Seminar), PSYC272 (Psychological Research Methods 1), PSYC273 (Psychological Research Methods 2), and PSYC480 (Senior Seminar in Psychology) to guide students in their calling and vocation journey, and the new Pendle Hill Calling & Vocation initiative at Malone University seem to be helping majors to reach the desired outcome.
5. An evaluation of whether or not the action has resulted in improvement to student learning with respect to the specific PLO identified as a challenge
 In the last two assessment cycles when this PLO was measured (2020-21 and 2018-2019), the percentage at or above “Meet Expectations” (i.e., score of 3) went up to 67 and 89, respectively.
6. The processes that are in place to maintain and monitor the effectiveness of the action steps:
 In PSYC 272, PSYC273, and PSYC480, instructors have added specific assignments that perpetuate reflexivity in reflection on faith, vocation & calling. This has happened during 2020 and 2021 and it builds continuing reflection about calling and vocation and faith within and across the courses. In PSYC230, a process of continuing reflection leads to a capstone assignment that pertains to calling and vocation.

7. Ways in which the challenge has informed departmental strategic planning, budgeting, and/or expenditures

This challenge has not yet informed departmental strategic planning and budgeting, but the upcoming Program Review will be an opportunity for the department to reflect and intentionally seek to address this issue in the future.

List the 3 programs of study included in this assessment cycle (from Step 1)

- 1) BA in Psychology
- 2) Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program (MA.Ed.)
- 3) School Counseling Program (MA.Ed.)