



Program: Department of Bible, Theology & Ministry

Assessed by: Department of Bible, Theology & Ministry

Date: 2015-2016

Mission Statement:

Affiliated with the Evangelical Friends tradition, the Malone University Department of Theology 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:

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

Learning Objectives: Specifically, students will demonstrate learning related to...

- 1A. The "grand drama" of the biblical story including key persons, events, and themes
- 1B. The historical, cultural, and literary contexts, which necessarily inform and guide biblical interpretation
- 1C. The theological unity of the Christian biblical canon.
- 1D. The ethical mandates of scripture in light of the gospel of Jesus Christ

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

Learning Objectives: Specifically, students will demonstrate learning related to...

- 2A. The history and development of the classical theological tradition, including the development of the biblical canon
- 2B. Key persons, events, and theological developments associated with each of the standard divisions of Christian history (early, medieval, reformation/modern)

2C. The synthetic nature of the main foci of systematic theology, including the doctrines of scripture, revelation, God, creation, humanity, sin, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Church, Salvation, End times, etc.

2D. Engaging, profitably, with important thinkers and movements from the distant and more recent past when interpreting scripture, practicing theology, and promoting a distinctively Christian moral vision

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

Learning Objectives: Specifically, students will demonstrate learning related to...

3A. The Church's mission and manifold ministries from within the context of the mission of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Additional Learning Objectives for Bible and Theology Majors: Specifically, students will demonstrate learning related to...

3B. A biblical theology acknowledging God as both subject and object of prayer and worship as foundational for the practice of Christian Ministry.

3C. The rudiments of either Hebrew or Greek phonology and grammar, and the ability to apply biblical language tools to research, translation, and exegesis for sermon preparation

Additional Objective for Christian Worship, Educational Ministries, Missions & Cross-Cultural Ministries, Pastoral Ministry, Youth Ministry, and Youth/Educational Ministries Majors: Specifically, students will demonstrate learning related to...

3D. The ability to develop, implement, lead, and evaluate a ministry in a specific context (depending upon the student's major) giving attention to all aspects of personhood integrating spiritual growth with social, moral, psychological, cognitive and physical development.

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

Objectives: Specifically, students will demonstrate learning related to...

4A. Cultivating a faith that intentionally seeks understanding

4B. Thinking, reading, and writing critically

4C. Evaluating texts and other scholarly sources for their quality

4D. Learning to appreciate and grow through an engagement of diverse interpretive traditions and theological perspectives

4E. Communicating clearly in written and spoken form in order to lead, faithfully, in various Christian ministries

Program Intended Learning Outcomes (PILO)	Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success	Summary of Data Collected	Use of Results
<p>1. Students will demonstrate a basic knowledge of and ability to interpret and articulate the biblical story.</p> <p>Specifically, students will demonstrate learning related to:</p> <p>1A. The “grand drama” of the biblical story including key persons, events, and themes</p> <p>1B. The historical, cultural, and literary contexts, which necessarily inform and guide biblical interpretation</p> <p>1C. The theological unity of the Christian biblical canon.</p> <p>1D. The ethical mandates of scripture in light of the gospel of Jesus Christ</p>	<p><u>Direct Measure:</u> Embedded assignments. Students were given 1-9 points on a pre-determined assignment. Success involves: 25% or more earning Advanced (scores of 7-9), 60% earning Adequate (scores of 4-6), and 15% or less earning Inadequate (scores of 1-3).</p> <p><u>Indirect Measure:</u> Senior Written Exit Reports and Interviews. We evaluate student comments regarding their experiences in the Department.</p>	<p>Goal 1A: A total of 16 students were assessed; all 16 scored advanced (100%). This is an unusually high score.</p> <p>Goal 1B: A total of 27 students were assessed; 18 scored advanced (67%), 3 scored adequate (11%), and 6 scored inadequate (22%).</p> <p>Goal 1C: A total of 28 students were assessed; 24 scored advanced (86%), 4 scored adequate (14%), and 0 scored inadequate (0%).</p> <p>Goal 1D: A total of 14 students were assessed; 6 scored advanced (43%), 8 scored adequate (57%), and 0 scored inadequate (0%).</p> <p>Written Exit Reports and Interviews revealed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students had a very positive attitude about their education and professors in the department. They affirmed a significant increase in biblical knowledge since entering the department. 2. Some concern exists that Bible/theology courses are too academic and do not have enough practical ministry application incorporated into the assignments. 	<p>Overall, students have scored exceedingly well. The only area of concern this year is that a few more students scored inadequate on Goal 1B than we had hoped (although most of the class did an excellent job). This is an area we will need to watch to determine if this is an anomaly or the start of a trend. (We do not have data for Goal 1B from 2014-15 with which to compare.)</p> <p>Faculty are pleased at the increased levels of understanding of Scripture. Although professors perceive that we are incorporating practical ministry examples into our class sessions, it appears work needs to be done in this area. As a department we have discussed this need and have committed to incorporating practical application into our discussions and assignments.</p>

<p>2. Students will demonstrate a basic knowledge of and ability to articulate central themes in Christian history, theology, and ethics.</p> <p>Specifically, students will demonstrate learning related to:</p> <p>2A. The history and development of the classical theological tradition, including the development of the biblical canon</p> <p>2B. Key persons, events, and theological developments associated with each of the standard divisions of Christian history (early, medieval, reformation/modern)</p> <p>2C. The synthetic nature of the main foci of systematic theology, including the doctrines of scripture, revelation, God, creation, humanity, sin, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Church, Salvation, End times, etc.</p> <p>2D. Engaging, profitably, with important thinkers and movements from the distant and more recent past when interpreting scripture, practicing theology, and promoting a distinctively Christian moral vision</p>	<p><u>Direct Measure:</u> Embedded assignments. Students were given 1-9 points on a pre-determined assignment. Success involves: 25% or more earning Advanced (scores of 7-9), 60% earning Adequate (scores of 4-6), and 15% or less earning Inadequate (scores of 1-3).</p> <p><u>Indirect Measure:</u> Senior Written Exit Reports and Interviews. We evaluate student comments regarding their experiences in the Department.</p>	<p>Goal 2A: A total of 25 students were assessed: 9 scored advanced (36%), 13 scored adequate (52%), and 3 scored inadequate (12%).</p> <p>Goal 2B: A total of 22 students were assessed: 14 scored advanced (64%), 6 scored adequate (27%), and 2 scored inadequate (9%).</p> <p>Goal 2C: A total of 14 students were assessed: 3 scored advanced (21%), 10 scored adequate (71%), and 1 scored inadequate (7%).</p> <p>Goal 2D: The assessment is scheduled for THEO 413 (Contemporary Theology), which was not offered this year.</p> <p>Written Exit Reports and Interviews revealed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students generally had a very positive attitude about their education and professors in the department and appreciated the diversity of theological viewpoints. They affirmed a significant increase in theological knowledge since entering the department, and several students cited THEO 331 and THEO 332 as being formative for their theological understanding, as well as THEO 342. 2. No significant weaknesses in the area of theology curriculum were reported. Some student expressed a desire for more Christian history courses. 	<p>The Department is pleased with the results but will nonetheless continue to monitor student learning in this area.</p> <p>The Department is pleased with the results but will continue to monitor student learning in this area.</p>
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<p>3. Students will demonstrate a basic understanding of and competence in the practice of Christian Ministry.</p> <p>Specifically, students will demonstrate learning related to:</p> <p>3A. The Church's mission and manifold ministries from within the context of the mission of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit</p> <p>Additional Objectives for Bible/Theology Majors:</p> <p>3B. A biblical theology acknowledging God as both subject and object of prayer and worship as foundational for the practice of Christian Ministry.</p> <p>3C. The rudiments of either Hebrew or Greek phonology and grammar, and the ability to apply biblical language tools to research, translation, and exegesis for sermon preparation</p> <p>Additional Objective for Christian Worship, Educational Ministries, Missions & Cross-Cultural Ministries, Pastoral Ministry, Youth Ministry, and Youth/Educational Ministries Majors:</p> <p>3D. The ability to develop, implement, lead, and evaluate a ministry in a specific context (depending upon the student's major) giving attention to all aspects of personhood integrating spiritual growth with social, moral, psychological, cognitive and physical development.</p>	<p><u>Direct Measure:</u> Embedded assignments. Students were given 1-9 points on a pre-determined assignment. Success involves: 25% or more earning Advanced (scores of 7-9), 60% earning Adequate (scores of 4-6), and 15% or less earning Inadequate (scores of 1-3).</p> <p><u>Indirect Measure:</u> Senior Written Exit Reports and Interviews. We evaluate student comments regarding their experiences in the Department.</p>	<p>Goal 3A: No data submitted</p> <p>Goal 3B: No data submitted</p> <p>Goal 3C: A total of 10 students were assessed: 9 scored advanced (90%), 1 scored adequate (10%), and 0 scored inadequate (0%).</p> <p>Goal 3D: A total of 24 students were assessed: 14 scored advanced (58%), 10 scored adequate (42%), and 0 scored inadequate (0%).</p> <p>Written Exit Reports and Interviews revealed the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students affirmed the importance of internships, MIN 424 (Leadership & Staff Dynamics) and MIN 421 (Communicating the Christian Faith). 2. Some students expressed the desire to have more practical ministry courses in the department core requirements. They felt more practical ministry courses were necessary. 3. Some students were concerned that there is only one full-time ministry professor. Students desire more variety in curriculum; they expressed the concern that the content of some youth ministry courses was redundant. 	<p>The department will work harder to ensure that all data is submitted by the end of each term.</p> <p>The department is pleased with the results of Goals 3C and 3D.</p> <p>The department feels somewhat constrained by perceived university limits on the number of credit hours we may require in our majors. Since most majors are already at the perceived maximum (@51 hours), we find it difficult to require additional ministry courses for our majors.</p> <p>The Department has again this year hired Dr. Marva Hoopes as an instructional specialist (less than full-time, but more hours than a typical adjunct) to assist with educational ministry courses. In addition, Dr. Hoopes and Dr. Quigley have team-taught several courses. This has helped to provide additional perspectives in the ministry courses.</p>
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<p>4. Students will cultivate habits of careful reading, critical thinking, research, writing, and speaking</p> <p>Specifically, students will demonstrate learning related to:</p> <p>4A. Cultivating a faith that intentionally seeks understanding</p> <p>4B. Thinking, reading, and writing critically</p> <p>4C. Evaluating texts and other scholarly sources for their quality</p> <p>4D. Learning to appreciate and grow through an engagement of diverse interpretive traditions and theological perspectives</p> <p>4E. Communicating clearly in written and spoken form in order to lead, faithfully, in various Christian ministries</p>	<p><u>Direct Measure:</u> Embedded assignments. Students were given 1-9 points on a pre-determined assignment. Success involves: 25% or more earning Advanced (scores of 7-9), 60% earning Adequate (scores of 4-6), and 15% or less earning Inadequate (scores of 1-3).</p> <p><u>Indirect Measure:</u> Senior Written Exit Reports and Interviews. We evaluate student comments regarding their experiences in the Department.</p>	<p>Goal 4A: A total of 13 students were assessed: 11 scored advanced (85%), 2 scored adequate (15%), and 0 scored inadequate (0%).</p> <p>Goal 4B: A total of 21 students were assessed: 9 scored advanced (43%), 8 scored adequate (38%), and 4 scored inadequate (19%).</p> <p>Goal 4C: <i>*Note: The data was taken from BIBL 121 (The New Testament) rather than the scheduled BIBL 201 (Hermeneutics). Nonetheless, BIBL 121 is comprised of majors in our department. A total of 22 students were assessed: 14 scored advanced (64%), 3 scored adequate (14%), and 5 scored inadequate (23%).</i></p> <p>Goal 4D: The assessment is scheduled for THEO 413 (Contemporary Theology), which was not offered this year.</p> <p>Goal 4E: A total of 18 students were assessed: 9 scored advanced (50%), 8 scored adequate (44%), and 1 scored inadequate (6%).</p> <p>Written Exit Reports and Interviews revealed the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students generally had a very positive attitude about their education and professors in the department. Students appreciated the theological diversity in the 	<p>Overall, the Department is pleased with these results. Goals 4B and 4C have a slightly higher than preferred number of students in the inadequate range. The department will continue to monitor these scores for developing trends.</p> <p>Faculty have agreed to emphasize early in the term instruction for writing research papers and evaluating sources. We are working to create a guide for students on choosing sources for writing research papers, and are revising a current guide for using SBL style.</p>
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		<p>department and believe they are better prepared to articulate their faith.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. They appreciated how research papers helped them think more critically, and they cited MIN 421 (Communicating the Christian Faith) as helpful in learning to present the Gospel orally.3. Some students suggested creating an introductory course on how to write research papers, evaluate sources, and use proper SBL style.	
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