

**Undergraduate Academic
Assessment Plan Religion
2012 2013**

Religion

College of Liberal Arts &
Sciences

Contact:

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Religion, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Undergraduate Academic Assessment Plan

Mission Statement

The major in religion examines religion as a significant and pervasive element in human culture. Through study of a variety of religious traditions, you learn about the history, beliefs and practices of the world's religions. Emphasis on method and theory and religion's comparative dimensions enables you to read and analyze current literature. You will be able to locate and use reference tools and demonstrate the ability to communicate independent, critical perspectives. The mission aligns with the college and UF mission to conduct scholarly inquiry and mentor students to become the next generation of intellectual pioneers.

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/liberalarts/ALC/religion.aspx>

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

Existing SLOs in the 2012-13-undergraduate catalog:

Content

1. Knowledge of religion as a significant and pervasive element in human culture.

Critical Thinking

2. Read and analyze current literature on method and theory in a study of religion.
3. Read and analyze current literature on comparative religion.

Communication

4. Effectively communicate, in speech and in writing, and disseminate the results of research in a coherent and organized manner.

Revised SLOs for the 2013-14 undergraduate catalog:

Content

2. Identify, describe and explain religion as a significant and pervasive element in human culture.

Critical Thinking

2. Read and analyze current literature on method and theory in a study of religion.
3. Read and analyze current literature on comparative religion.

Communication

4. Effectively communicate, in speech and in writing, and disseminate the results of research in a coherent and organized manner.

New/Revised SLOs, 2013-14*	Link to 2012-13* SLOs
Content	
Identify, describe and explain religion as a significant and pervasive element in human culture.	Knowledge of religion as a significant and pervasive element in human culture.
Critical Thinking	
Read and analyze current literature on method and theory in a study of religion.	Read and analyze current literature on method and theory in a study of religion.
Read and analyze current literature on comparative religion.	Read and analyze current literature on comparative religion.
Communication	
Effectively communicate, in speech and in writing, and disseminate the results of research in a coherent and organized manner.	Effectively communicate, in speech and in writing, and disseminate the results of research in a coherent and organized manner.

*undergraduate catalog dates

Curriculum Map

Curriculum Map for:

Religion

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Key: Introuced

Reinforced

Assessed

Courses SLOs	REL3931	REL4933	REL2210, REL2240, REL3249, or REL3252 Jewish or Christian Scripture	REL2317, REL2341, REL3330, or REL3336 Asian Religions	REL2362, REL3317, REL3366, or REL3367 Islamic Religions
Content Knowledge					
SLO #1	A Paper	A Paper	I, R	I, R	I, R
SLO #2	I, R, A Paper				
Critical Thinking					
SLO #3		A Paper	I, R	I, R	I, R
Communication					
SLO #4	I, R, A Paper	I, R, A Paper			

Assessment Cycle

Assessment Cycle Chart

Assessment Cycle for:

Religion

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Analysis and Interpretation:

April-May

Improvement Actions:

Completed by September 30

Dissemination:

Completed by October 30

SLOs	Year	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16
Content Knowledge							
SLO #1	No data				x		x
SLO #2	No data				x		x
Critical Thinking							
SLO #3	No data		x	x		x	
Communication							
SLO #4	No data			x		x	

Methods and Procedures

SLO Assessment Matrix

The SLO Assessment Matrix is new for the 2012-13 Academic Assessment Plans. We have populated the matrix to the extent possible with the information we have available. Please complete the matrix.

Assessment Method - For each SLO, please enter the assessment method you are using – exam (course, internal, or external), project, paper, presentation, performance, etc.

Measurement – list the measurement procedure you use for this outcome. It can be a faculty-developed rubric with the minimum acceptable level identified, an exam score and the minimum passing score, or other measurement. **Required for 2012-13: Include at least one example of a rubric used to assess an SLO.**

SLO Assessment Matrix for 2012-13

2012-13 Student Learning Outcome	Assessment Method	Measurement Procedure
Demonstrate knowledge of religion as a significant and pervasive element in human culture.	Paper	Department rubric
Read and analyze current literature on method and theory in a study of religion.	Paper	Department rubric
Read and analyze current literature on comparative religion.	Paper	Department rubric
Effectively communicate, in speech and in writing, and disseminate the results of research in a coherent and organized manner.	Paper	Department rubric

Data Collection and Measurements:

Indirect Assessment

Measure 1: Survey

All undergraduate majors will be required to complete a departmental Senior Survey. The Senior Survey will be developed and, over the course of time, modified and refined by the Department's Undergraduate Committee. The Survey will ask our graduating majors to give their assessment of what they have learned and what could have been done better. This questionnaire will assess student learning in the three content areas: Scripture, Asian religions, and Islam. This survey will be administered in the Capstone class.

Direct Assessments

Measure 2: Capstone Class

The Capstone class (Senior Seminar) explores diverse topics in and approaches to religious studies. Specific course material and objectives will show the coherency of the religion major. A written assignment, e.g. research paper, will measure:

- knowledge of religion as a significant and pervasive element in human culture;
- ability to read and analyze current literature on comparative religion;
- critical thinking skills;
- and ability to effectively communicate in writing and disseminate the results of research in a coherent and organized manner.

Do you have a sample rubric to go with these assessments?

Measure 3: Junior Seminar/Seminar on Theories and Methods

The Religious Studies Theories and Methods class (Junior Seminar) discusses classic and contemporary approaches to the field of Religious studies. Written assignments, e.g. response papers, will measure students' understanding of key approaches (methods, procedures), concepts, and practices in the study of religion. These assignments demonstrate students' ability to apply these methods to the content specified in our SLOs. Classroom discussion will enable faculty to assess students' ability to orally communicate their ideas.

Grading Rubric Religion		
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Knowledge	Meets or excels in responding appropriately to the assignment. Clearly states the central idea and recognizes religion as a significant and pervasive element in human culture	Fails to respond appropriately to the assignment. Does not fully develop a central idea. Presents idea in general terms.
Read/Analyze	Paper indicates knowledge to read and analyze current literature on comparative religion	Analysis incomplete or incoherent.
Critical thinking	Guides the reader through a logical sequence of reasoning and interprets evidence. Explains connections between the evidence and the main idea.	May not consistently show a logical progression of ideas.
Communication	Mechanics of writing consistently free of grammatical errors. Pulls information and conclusions together in logical sequence. Clearly communicates the main idea, the evidence that supports the main idea, and the conclusions.	Writing may have some grammatical errors. Does not clearly communicate the main idea and uses supporting evidence in general terms.

Assessment Oversight

The Undergraduate Advisor, in cooperation with the Courses and Curriculum Committee, together take responsibility for implementing this Outcomes Assessment Plan, and are referred to above as the “Undergraduate Committee.” This committee will have the Undergraduate Advisor as its Chair. The Undergraduate Committee is responsible for all assessment of undergraduate majors and for reporting the outcome of this assessment annually, by the last day of classes in each academic year, to the Head of Department. The report will assess the performance of juniors and seniors each year, comparing that performance with results obtained in previous assessments, and comparing seniors and juniors. In light of their findings, the Undergraduate Committee will routinely make recommendations for changes and improvements in undergraduate instruction, advising and curriculum.

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