

PROGRAM REVIEW Fall 2021

Program: Philosophy

Division: Arts and Humanities

Date: November 1, 2021

Writer(s): Jeremiah Bodnar

SLO/SAO Point-Person: Jeremiah Bodnar

Audience: Deans, Vice Presidents of Student Services and Academic Services, All Planning and Allocation Committees. This document will be available to the public.

Uses: This Program Review will be used to inform the campus and community about your program. It will also be used in the processes of creating Division Summaries, determining College Planning Priorities and allocating resources. A final use is to document fulfillment of accreditation requirements.

Please note: Program Review is NOT in itself a vehicle for making requests. All requests should be made through appropriate processes (e.g., Instructional Equipment Request Process) or directed to your Dean or supervisor.

Time Frame: This Program Review should reflect on program status during the 2021-22 academic year. It should describe plans starting now and continuing through 2022-23.

Sections: There are three sections to this document. Sections and questions identify the name of the committee or office that will use the information and where you can get additional help.

- The first section focuses on general program reflection and planning.
- The second section is a review of curriculum, to be filled out only by programs with curriculum.
- The third section is a review for CTE programs, to be filled out only by these programs.

Topics: The Program Review Glossary defines key terms. Writers should review this glossary before writing: <https://bit.ly/2LqPxOW>

For Help: Contact Nadiyah Taylor: ntaylor@laspositascollege.edu.

A list of contacts for help with specific sections is provided on the Program Review website under the “tools for writers” tab. [<https://bit.ly/3fY7Ead>]

Instructions:

- 1) Please respond to each question with enough detail to present your information, but it doesn't have to be very long.
- 2) If the requested information does not apply to your program, write “Not Applicable.”
- 3) Optional/suggested: Communicate with your dean while completing this document.
- 4) Send an electronic copy of this form to Nadiyah Taylor and your dean by when?

Links:

[Program Review Home Page](#)

[Fall 2020 Program Reviews](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Section One: Your Program In 20-21 – Please check N/A where relevant

A. Accomplishments: How did your Program's accomplishments during AY20-21 support the newly revised college mission, the goals of the Educational Master Plan, and/or the President's Call to Action on anti-racism? Areas to consider include impacts to students by race/ethnicity, gender, sexuality, age, or disability status, or those disproportionately impacted by the shift to remote instruction and services.

- [College Mission](#)
- [Educational Master Plan](#)
- [Presidential Task Force: Call to Action](#)

Description	Mission	Master Plan	Presidential Task Force
1. Spring 2021 saw our highest representation of African American Students (5%) in the last 5 years. This may be a result of the outreach to the Umoja program done by the Philosophy program coordinator in consort with his position as the Honors Transfer Program Coordinator.	X	X	X
2. The representation of women in Philosophy courses continues to be strong, despite the fact that we have been unable to schedule the Feminist Philosophy course for several years. We see this as a strong accomplishment for equity because of the marked under-representation of women in the field at large and in our program in earlier years.	X	X	
3. Though the numbers are still small, the number of adults over 50 years of age who participated in the Philosophy program saw its highest number in recent years. This is encouraging as it takes place against a background of generally declining numbers of older adults taking course in the philosophy major and in the campus as a whole.	X	X	
4. With help of the Guided Pathways leads, a faculty-facing program map for the Philosophy department has been completed along with a student facing equivalent. This responds to a plan put forward in our last program review where we indicated that we would work on this concern in the following year.	X	X	
5. Philosophy 3 and 5 were updated. This need was indicated in our last program review. Measurable objectives were updated to ensure that students gain the ability to do philosophical analysis in these fields is informed by contemporary discussion of race and gender.	X	X	X
6. As in other departments, massive efforts were made to generate online materials to serve our students and their unique needs during the time of Covid.	X	X	

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B. Challenges, Obstacles and Needs: What significant challenges or obstacles did your Program face during AY20-21 in supporting the newly revised college mission, the goals of the Educational Master Plan, and/or the President's Call to Action on anti-racism? Areas to consider include impacts to students by race/ethnicity, gender, sexuality, age, or disability status, or those disproportionately impacted by the shift to remote instruction and services.

_____N/A

Description	Mission	Master Plan	Presidential Task Force
The most significant challenges in our program this year emerged from the unprecedented impacts of Covid 19. Faculty worked hard to create and implement new coursework in the online format. All faculty worked tirelessly to accommodate students with a broad range of challenges created by Covid 19 and exacerbated by other cultural and individual challenges happening at the same time.	X	X	
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

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C. Planning: What are the most important plans, either new or continuing, for your Program?

_____N/A

Plan	New	Continuing	Short term	Long term
We are at the first year of a PSLO and attendant CSLO evaluation for the logic component of the Philosophy AAT. We plan to track and assess any changes we may see in student success with these SLO's. These SLO's were identified because of the difficulty students typically find the material.		X	X	
Over the period covered by this review Philosophy 3 and 5 were updated to ensure that important philosophical perspectives of race/ethnicity and gender were addressed in the course outlines. That process will continue next year with a special focus on Philosophy 2 which is up for curriculum revision this year. Working on Philosophy 2 will be a new project, but the process of addressing diversity is, of course, a continuing process.	X	X	X	
Spring 2021 saw the highest enrollment of African American students that the program has seen in the last 5 years. We plan to keep following this data to see if these changes continue over time. We are following similar trends with students over 50.		X	X	

Tab to add more lines as needed

D. How have your program's interactions with the larger campus systems benefitted your students? For example, working with allocation committees, participation on committees, etc.

☒ X ☐ N/A

Campus system or Committee	How has it benefitted your students?
Honors program	Working with the honors program has provided students with research opportunities, major exploration, conference participation, and enhanced transfer prospects.
Enrollment management committee	Working with the Enrollment Management Committee has provided the program coordinator with additional tools to assess and plan program offerings to meet evolving student needs.

E. If you have outreached to students in your department, program or classes, please share information about what you discovered and how you have used the feedback

☐ N/A

Describe student outreach used to gather feedback? For example, through surveys, conversations, etc.	Outreach has become a part of most of our philosophy courses. Faculty explain the philosophy major along with career opportunities and transfer/career paths.
What did you learn?	Students are excited for such opportunities and surprised to learn the variety of fields in which philosophy majors work. Several have chosen philosophy because of its connection to law and law school.
How will you use the feedback?	Feedback is used to update the presentations on the philosophy major yearly.

Section Two: Data Analysis – Quantitative and Qualitative

A. IR Data Review: Describe any significant trends in your program's data provided by the office of Institutional Research and Planning. (Note: Not all Programs have IR data available; if your program does not have a data packet or dashboard data, you may note that in the response box.) You may also discuss any other data used by your program for decision-making and planning.

- IR Data packets are available here: <https://bit.ly/2IYaFu7> - will be updated with fall 21 data
- Course Success Rates Dashboard can be found at the bottom of this page: <https://bit.ly/2Y9vGpl>

The most obvious trend in the data can be confidently linked to the difficulties encountered by Covid 19. As with the rest of the college, our enrollments declined significantly, and success rates suffered in several courses. Despite these declines trends of proportionate representation by women, first generation college students, and cultural minority groups remained steady. We were happy to see a continued high representation of women even though we were unable to offer our Feminist Philosophy course during this time. This is significant as women are generally under-represented in the field of Philosophy. We also saw our highest enrollment of African American students for the past 5 years in the Spring of 2021. We also saw our highest participation of students over 50 years of age in this evaluation cycle.

B. Program-Set Standard (Instructional Programs Only): The program-set standard is a baseline that alerts programs if their student success rates have dipped suddenly. There may be many valid reasons a program does not meet the Program Set Standard; when a program does not meet this standard, they are simply asked to examine possible reasons and note any actions that should be taken, if appropriate.

[Program-set standard data can be found on this page:](#)

- *Did your program meet its program-set standard for successful course completion?*
☒ *X* *yes* ☐ *no*
- *If your program did not meet your program-set standard, discuss possible reasons and how this may affect program planning or resource requests.*

SLOs/SAOs:

For assistance with these questions, contact the SLO Committee Chair. [<https://bit.ly/3fY7Ead>]

Each year programs must discuss how their PSLOs, CSLOs, or Service Area Outcomes (SAOs) support the College Mission. This helps us to see how our students are progressing in their learning.

You should complete ONE of the following three sections. Please choose the option that is most appropriate for your program:

- C1: Instructional Programs with PSLOs
- C2: Instructional Programs without PSLOs or with Special Circumstances
- C3: Non-Instructional Programs

Go directly to the section you chose. If you are not sure which option to pick, contact the SLO Committee Chair or Program Review Committee Chair for assistance.

C1: Instructional Programs with PSLOs

PSLO Assessments:

- (1) Please list the PSLO(s) that were reviewed in this last cycle and explain why these were chosen.
- (2) What percentage of faculty completed the planned assessments? (run Faculty Participation report from last year). ____100____%
- (3) Did you get the assessment data that you needed to complete this report? If not, then describe the barriers that you can identify. ____X__YES _____No

- (4) Discuss the findings of the PSLO(s) that were up for review last year (according to your 3-year planning template). What conclusions can be drawn about student learning?

This is the first year for reviewing the PSLO for the Philosophy AAT designed to test student's learning of Logic. Logic is an essential skill for philosophy and is also well known as the most difficult skill. The two classes evaluated (Fall 2020 and Spring 2021). The most difficult aspect for students is generally the formal logic of proofs and validity. Interestingly, student success for this elements increased dramatically between Fall and Spring. This may be because of the additional help materials amassed by the time of the Spring semester for the online course. We will follow these students over the next semesters to see if this trend holds.

- (5) Was the data disaggregated and, if so, on what parameters? What, if any, equity issues emerged?

Data was not disaggregated.

(6) List changes that you plan on making to improve student learning and address inequities.

Because student performance improved so much by the spring semester with the amassing of so many help materials, no changes are planned at this time. Instead, we intend to see if the observed changes hold through the next academic year.

(7) Discuss the challenges, if any, to improving student learning and equity. You may refer back to items listed in Section 1B.

(8) Are you planning on revising on your 3-year planning template? If so, describe.
____YES ____X____No

C2: Instructional Programs without PSLOs or with Special Circumstances

CSLO Assessments:

Student Learning

(1) List the CSLO(s) that were up for review last year (according to your 3-year planning template) and explain why your department selected these CSLOs for review.

(2) What percentage of faculty completed the planned assessments? (run Faculty Participation report from last year). _____%

(3) Discussion-based analysis of student learning: Using the CSLO data and answers to the reflection questions, what type of conclusions can be made about student learning?

(4) Describe the pertinent findings. What, if any, equity issues emerged?

(5) List changes that you plan on making to improve student learning.

Assessment Process: To be completed by the department/program or the SLO Coordinator

(1) List changes that you plan on making to improve student learning and address inequities.

(2) Discuss the challenges, if any, to improving student learning and equity. You may refer back to items listed in Section 1B.

(3) Are you planning on revising your 3-year planning template? If so, describe.

____YES ____No

C3: Non-Instructional Programs

SAO Assessments:

Support of Student Learning

(1) List the SAO(s) that were up for review last year (according to your 3-year planning template) and explain why your department selected these SAOs for review.

(2) What percentage of faculty completed the planned assessments? (run Faculty Participation report from last year). _____%

(3) Discussion-based analysis of student learning: Using the SAO data and answers to the reflection questions, what type of conclusions can be made about student learning?

(4) Describe the pertinent findings. What, if any, equity issues emerged?

(5) List changes that you plan on making to improve student learning.

Assessment Process: To be completed by the department/program or the SLO Coordinator

(6) List changes that you plan on making to improve student learning and address inequities.

(7) Discuss the challenges, if any, to improving student learning and equity. You may refer back to items listed in Section 1B. Are you planning on revising on your 3-year planning template and, if so, describe?

(8) Are you planning on revising on your 3-year planning template? If so, describe.

____YES ____No

Program Review Suggestions (optional): What questions or suggestions do you have regarding this year's Program Review forms or process?

Section Three: Curriculum Review (Programs with Courses Only)

For assistance with this section, contact the Curriculum Committee Chair. [\[https://bit.ly/3fY7Ead\]](https://bit.ly/3fY7Ead)

The following questions ask you to review your program's curriculum. To see the last outline revision date and revision due date:

- 1. Log in to CurricUNET**
- 2. Select "Course Outline Report" under "Reports/Interfaces"**
- 3. Select the report as an Excel file or as HTML**

- A. Title V Updates [Curriculum Committee]: Are any of your courses requiring an update to stay within the 5-year cycle? List courses needing updates below. *Reminder: updates to course title or units, and course deactivations, will require updating any program they are associated with. List programs requiring updating in question (B).***

☒ YES ☐ No

Course Name & Number
Philosophy 2: Ethics

- B. Degree/Certificate Updates [Curriculum Committee]: Are there any programs requiring modification? If yes, list them below.**

☐ YES ☒ No

Certificate or Degree

C. Are there any courses or programs for which a non-mandatory update is planned?

____YES ___X___Not at this time

If yes, explain details, rationale, or any support that might be helpful

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D. Does your program plan to create any new courses or programs this year?

____YES ___X___No

If yes, please provide details and the rationale

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Section Four: CTE Updates

(CTE Programs Only)

Vicki Shipman will provide you with or support any data needs

A. Labor Market Conditions: Examine your most recent labor market data (within the last 2 years).

1) Does your program continue to meet a documented labor market demand?

____YES ____No

2) Does this program represent a training need that is not duplicated in the college's service area?

____YES ____No

Please explain

B. Advisory Boards: Has your program complied with advisory board recommendations?

____YES ____No

If not, please explain.

C. Strong Workforce Program Metrics: Utilizing LaunchBoard, review the Strong Workforce Program Metrics. Review the data and then answer the following questions.

C1. Does your program meet or exceed the regional and state medians for increased enrollments, completions, and/or transfer since your last program review?

____YES ____No

If not, what program improvements may be made to increase this metric?

C2. Does your program meet or exceed the regional and state medians **for students gaining employment in their field of study?**

____YES ____No

If not, what program improvements may be made to increase this metric?

C3. Does your program meet or exceed the regional and state medians **for student employment rates after leaving the college?**

____YES ____No

If not, what program improvements may be made to increase this metric?

C4. Does your program meet or exceed the regional and state medians **for increased student earnings and median change in earnings?**

____YES ____No

If not, what program improvements may be made to increase this metric?