

COURSE ASSESSMENT REPORT

I. Background Information

1. Course assessed:
 Course Discipline Code and Number: HUM 145
 Course Title: Comparative Religions
 Division/Department Codes: HSS
2. Semester assessment was conducted (check one):
☐ Fall 20__
☒ Winter 2008_
☐ Spring/Summer 20__
3. Assessment tool(s) used: check all that apply.
☐ Portfolio
☐ Standardized test
☐ Other external certification/licensure exam (specify):
☐ Survey
☐ Prompt
☒ Departmental exam
☐ Capstone experience (specify):
☐ Other (specify):
4. Have these tools been used before?
☐ Yes
☒ No

If yes, have the tools been altered since its last administration? If so, briefly describe changes made.

5. Indicate the number of students assessed/total number of students enrolled in the course.
 69/114
6. Describe how students were selected for the assessment.
 Participation in assessment as extra-credit.

II. Results

1. Briefly describe the changes that were implemented in the course as a result of the previous assessment.
 This is the first assessment of the recently revised master syllabus.
2. State each outcome (verbatim) from the master syllabus for the course that was assessed.
Define and explain concepts pertaining to the following central elements of religious traditions or worldviews:
 - The nature of ultimate reality.
 - The method of approaching ultimate reality.
 - The personal transformation resulting from contact with, or experience of, ultimate reality.
3. Briefly describe assessment results based on data collected during the course assessment, demonstrating the extent to which students are achieving each of the learning outcomes listed above. *Please attach a summary of the data collected.*
 The students were asked to perform four tasks based on the above outcomes:

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- 1) Define three concepts drawn from the different religious traditions covered during the term.
- 2) Describe the view of ultimate reality contained in the one of the religious views covered. During this description, the students were asked to connect their discussion to one of the concepts defined in #1.
- 3) Describe the approach to ultimate reality contained within the religious tradition discussed in #2. Again, the students were asked to utilize one of the concepts defined in #1.
- 4) Describe the transformation of the individual that arises from contact with ultimate reality. Again, this analysis would involve the religious tradition discussed in #2 and #3, as well as one of the concepts defined in #1.

For each one of these tasks, the standard of success for the assessment was an overall average of 2.1 based on a rubric scale of 0-3 (see attached). For task #1 the overall average was 2.78. For task #2 the average was 2.3. For task #3 the average was 2.39. For task #4 an average of 2.28 was achieved.

4. For each outcome assessed, indicate the standard of success used, and the percentage of students who achieved that level of success. ***Please attach the rubric/scoring guide used for the assessment.***
The standard of success for each task was an overall average of 2.1 on a scale of 0-3. For each task the standard of success was achieved.

5. Describe the areas of strength and weakness in students' achievement of the learning outcomes shown in assessment results.

Strengths: Not surprisingly, students did best in terms of defining concepts.

Weaknesses: Students did not perform as well in terms of the application of concepts (tasks 2-4). Nonetheless, the overall average was well over the standard of success in each of these areas.

III. Changes influenced by assessment results

1. If weaknesses were found (see above) or students did not meet expectations, describe the action that will be taken to address these weaknesses.
Given that the standard of success was achieved in all areas, no changes will be made in this round of assessment and revision.

2. Identify intended changes that will be instituted based on results of this assessment activity (check all that apply). Please describe changes and give rationale for change. N/A

a. ☐ Outcomes/Assessments on the Master Syllabus
Change/rationale:

b. ☐ Objectives/Evaluation on the Master Syllabus
Change/rationale:

c. ☐ Course pre-requisites on the Master Syllabus
Change/rationale:

d. ☐ 1st Day Handouts
Change/rationale:

e. ☐ Course assignments
Change/rationale:

f. ☐ Course materials (check all that apply)
☐ Textbook
☐ Handouts
☐ Other:

g. ☐ Instructional methods
Change/rationale:

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- h. ☐ Individual lessons & activities
Change/rationale:

3. What is the timeline for implementing these actions? N/A

IV. Future plans

1. Describe the extent to which the assessment tools used were effective in measuring student achievement of learning outcomes for this course.
Initially it was felt that the assessment tool might be too extensive to be easily implemented during the term. The tool, though, proved to be quite effective.
2. If the assessment tools were not effective, describe the changes that will be made for future assessments.
3. Which outcomes from the master syllabus have been addressed in this report?

All X Selected _____
If "All", provide the report date for the next full review: W/ 2011
If "Selected", provide the report date for remaining outcomes: _____

Submitted by:

Name: Charles R. Johnson [Signature] Date: 12/14/08
Print/Signature

Department Chair: Paulette Grotrian [Signature] Date: 12/17/08
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Dean: Bill Abernathy [Signature] Date: _____
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