

RELIGIOUS STUDIES ASSESSMENT 2011/12

Date of report: May 25, 2012
Semester: Fall and Spring of 2011/12
Division: Humanities
Department: Religious Studies
Faculty: Undergraduate College
Coordinator: Paul Mojzes

Profile:

Number of Majors: 1
Number of Minors: 0
Number of Faculty: 2 full time (Paul Mojzes, and Maria Kaplun)
Courses offered:

Fall 2011:

- Understanding the Bible
- Introduction to the Old Testament
- Dynamics of World Religions I
- Religious Violence and Peace-making (Honors level)
- Meaning of Christ (2 sections)
- Christian Ethics

Spring 2012

- Introduction to Religion
- Introduction to the New Testament
- Dynamics of World Religions II
- Seminar in Special Topics: Holocaust and Genocide (Honors level)
- Introduction to Catholic Thought (2 sections)
- Dynamics of the Church
- Women and Religion

Departmental Factors that Affect Assessment: Enrollment in all of our Gen Ed courses tend to be large (usually between 16 and 27 students—most of them over 20). The Honors level courses had an enrollment between 5 and 9 students.

Learning Outcomes for Majors: The assessment tool used is the comprehensive examination. This year we had no graduating senior. For the one junior major we did a qualitative assessment (he is a transfer student who declared a major only at the end of the Fall semester). As of May 2012, this student has completed 7 courses in his major discipline (3 transferred and 4 at Rosemont) and 4 courses in related disciplines. The student in question is generally conscientious, hard-working, and exhibits good to nearly perfect attendance. He appears shy and does not participate in class discussion. Academically, he struggles with the course material, with research, and with writing. However, through persistence, extra credit work, and by asking for help, he achieves passing grades or higher.

Recommendations for Improving the Assessment Process: None.

The Faculty of Religious Studies:

The faculty of the discipline consists of one Professor who taught at Rosemont College since the Fall of 1970 and one Assistant Professor who was hired for the Fall 2011. During 2010/2011 we had hired Sarah Spangler to teach Catholic Theology courses but she resigned abruptly at the end of the year to take a position elsewhere. We hired in June 2011 Maria Kaplun, a graduate of Rosemont College and a Ph.D. candidate at Temple University to teach Catholic theology. A number of courses that she taught were new preparations for her. Currently we are adequately staffed.