

**Liberal Arts Program  
School of Business and Liberal Arts  
Fall 2015 Assessment Report**



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# Liberal Arts Student Learning Outcomes

PLO	Defined
1	Interpret and draw inferences from mathematical models such as formulas, graphs, tables and schematics.
2	Represent mathematical information symbolically, visually, numerically and verbally.
3	Understanding of the methods scientists use to explore natural phenomena, including observation, hypothesis development, measurement and data collection, experimentation, evaluation of evidence, and employment of mathematical analysis.
4	Understanding of the methods social scientists use to explore social phenomena, including observation, hypothesis development, measurement and data collection, experimentation, evaluation of evidence, and employment of mathematical and interpretive analysis.
5	Knowledge of major concepts, models and issues of at least one discipline in the social sciences.
6	Knowledge of a basic narrative of American history: political, economic, social, and cultural, including knowledge of unity and diversity in American society.
7	Knowledge of the development of the distinctive features of the history, institutions, economy, society, culture, etc., of Western civilization.
8	Knowledge of the distinctive features of the history, institutions, economy, society, culture, etc., of one non-Western civilization.
9	Knowledge of the conventions and methods of at least one of the humanities in addition to those encompassed by other knowledge areas required by the General Education program.

## Liberal Arts Student Learning Outcomes cont'd

PLO	Defined
10	Relate the development of Western civilization to that of other regions of the world.
11	Understanding of at least one principal form of artistic expression and the creative process inherent therein.
12	Basic proficiency in the understanding and use of a foreign Language.
13	Knowledge of the distinctive features of culture(s) associated with the language they are studying.

## What Outcomes [ILOs] Were Assessed

ILO	Defined
1	Communication Skills: Demonstrates the ability to effectively present, organize, and articulate thoughts, ideas, viewpoints, and conclusions both orally and/or in writing
2	Critical Thinking: Demonstrates the ability to interpret, apply, analyze, identify, distinguish and evaluate the assumptions, methodology and/or evidence of concepts, constructs and theory to provide a valid response, conclusion or recommendation.
3	Professional Competence: Demonstrates knowledge and the ability to apply professional, industry and ethical standards through the development of skills and knowledge consistent in professional practice within the respective discipline.
4	Inter/Intrapersonal Skills: Demonstrates an ability to address professional and ethical responsibilities including a respect for diversity; recognize the impact of societal issues within a global context; function effectively as a member or leader of a team; and perform self-reflection of personal growth and achievement.

## How Liberal Arts Courses Mapped to ILOs:

PLO	Courses	Defined
1	ANTH 102 ENGL 101 ENGL 221 HIST 103 MATH 111 MATH 121 PSYC 101 SOC 101	Communication Skills: Demonstrates the ability to effectively present, organize, and articulate thoughts, ideas, viewpoints, and conclusions both orally and/or in writing
2	ANTH 102 BIOL 101 ENGL 101 ENGL 221 HIST 103 MATH 111 MATH 121 PSYC 101 SOC 101	Critical Thinking: Demonstrates the ability to interpret, apply, analyze, identify, distinguish and evaluate the assumptions, methodology and/or evidence of concepts, constructs and theory to provide a valid response, conclusion or recommendation.
3	ANTH 102 BIOL 101 ENGL 101 ENGL 221 HIST 103 PSYC 101	Professional Competence: Demonstrates knowledge and the ability to apply professional, industry and ethical standards through the development of skills and knowledge consistent in professional practice within the respective discipline.
4	ANTH 102 ENGL 101 ENGL 221 PSYC 101	Inter/Intrapersonal Skills: Demonstrates an ability to address professional and ethical responsibilities including a respect for diversity; recognize the impact of societal issues within a global context; function effectively as a member or leader of a team; and perform self-reflection of personal growth and achievement.

# How was the assessment accomplished?

## Assessment Tools:

- Quizzes
- Mid-Terms and Final Exams
- Written Assignments
- Oral Presentations
- Reflective Journal Writing
- Portfolio Submission

# PLO Assessment Findings

**ILO 1: Communication Skills: Demonstrates the ability to effectively present, organize, and articulate thoughts, ideas, viewpoints, and conclusions both orally and/or in writing.**

<b>Results</b>	<b>Measure s</b>	<b>Not Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Exceeded</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No Findings</b>	<b>%</b>
All Courses	148	44	30%	30	20%	60	41%	14	9%
ANTH 102	2	0	0%	1	50%	1	50%	0	0%
ENGL 101	43	7	9%	5	12%	28	65%	6	14%
ENGL 221	4	2	50%	1	25%	1	25%	0	0%
HIST 103	3	1	33%	0	0%	1	33%	1	33%
MATH 111	27	14	52%	7	26%	6	22%	0	0%
MATH 121	23	5	22%	1	4%	17	74%	0	0%
PSYC 101	40	15	38%	14	35%	4	10%	7	18%
SOCI 101	6	3	50%	1	17%	2	33%	0	0%



**ILO 2: Critical Thinking: Demonstrates the ability to interpret, apply, analyze, identify, distinguish and evaluate the assumptions, methodology and/or evidence of concepts, constructs and theory to provide a valid response, conclusion or recommendation.**

<b>Results</b>	<b>Measure s</b>	<b>Not Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Exceeded</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No Findings</b>	<b>%</b>
All Courses	162	48	30%	39	24%	58	36%	17	10%
ANTH 102	3	0	0%	2	67%	1	33%	0	0%
BIOL 101	5	0	0%	0	0%	5	100%	0	0%
ENGL 101	34	3	3%	8	24%	20	59%	5	15%
ENGL 221	2	2	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
HIST 103	9	3	33%	0	0%	3	33%	3	33%
MATH 111	27	14	52%	7	26%	6	22%	0	0%
MATH 121	23	5	22%	1	4%	17	74%	0	0%
PSYC 101	50	19	38%	18	36%	4	8%	9	18%
SOCI 101	9	4	44%	3	33%	2	22%	0	0%

**ILO 3: Professional Competence: Demonstrates knowledge and the ability to apply professional, industry and ethical standards through the development of skills and knowledge consistent in professional practice within the respective discipline.**

<b>Results</b>	<b>Measure s</b>	<b>Not Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Exceeded</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No Findings</b>	<b>%</b>
All Courses	104	25	24%	27	26%	35	34%	17	10%
ANTH 102	4	0	0%	1	25%	3	75%	0	0%
BIOL 101	4	0	0%	0	0%	4	100%	0	0%
ENGL 101	33	2	6%	7	21%	20	61%	4	12%
ENGL 221	1	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%
HIST 103	12	0	33%	0	0%	4	33%	4	33%
PSYC 101	50	19	38%	18	36%	4	8%	9	18%

**ILO 4: Inter/Intrapersonal Skills: Demonstrates an ability to address professional and ethical responsibilities including a respect for diversity; recognize the impact of societal issues within a global context; function effectively as a member or leader of a team; and perform self-reflection of personal growth and achievement.**

<b>Results</b>	<b>Measure s</b>	<b>Not Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Met</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Exceeded</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No Findings</b>	<b>%</b>
All Courses	43	13	30%	14	33%	9	21%	7	16%
ANTH 102	1	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%
ENGL 101	10	1	10%	1	10%	7	70%	1	10%
ENGL 221	1	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%
PSYC 101	31	12	39%	12	39%	1	19%	6	3%

# Summary

ILO	Total Measures	Measures Not Met	Measures Met or Exceeded	No Findings
1	148	44 or 30%	90 or <u>61%</u>	14 or 9%
2	162	48 or 30%	97 or <u>60%</u>	17 or 10%
3	104	25 or 24%	62 or <u>60%</u>	17 or 16%
4	43	13 or 30%	23 or <u>53%</u>	17 or 16%

# Assessment Findings

# Problems Identified

- Overall, a noteworthy percentage of measures were “Not Met” for ILO 1 and 2 Both of these are core elements of a Liberal Arts education(Communication and Critical Thinking) and should be improved.

“Closing the Loop”

# Suggested Program Changes

- Examine and revise our program goals to better reflect our distributional requirements (i.e., should we have a PLO that measures proficiency in a foreign language?).
- Encourage greater collaboration among faculty teaching different sections of the same course to share best practices.
- Ensure that the Liberal Arts Committee meets and discusses assessment at regular intervals.
- Encourage closer interaction between our non-tenure-track faculty and those on the tenure-track.



# Suggested Changes in Teaching

- Ensure that we meet the need of our advanced students as well as the underprepared in our classes.
- Encourage students to avail themselves of the tutoring and writing centers.
- Develop assignments that speak more closely to the course SLOs.
- Ensure that, in addition to specific curricular content, we emphasize the Liberal Arts significance of our courses.

# Suggested Assessment / Taskstream Changes

- Extract data that includes PLOs and ILOs – not just the latter.
- Examine and revise SLOs to ensure they adequately measure what our students should be learning and then map these to the PLOs.
- Extract data that notes not the measures “Met” or “Not Met” but the students meeting or not meeting standards.
- Edit ILO 3 “Professional Competence” – It is difficult to apply this measure to Liberal Arts Disciplines. Perhaps reword it to read “Professional and/or Disciplinary Competence”
- Collapse “Met” and “Exceeded” into a “Met” category.
- It was somewhat difficult to pull meaning from the our Assessment findings because of the above.
- Appoint an Assessment Coordinator.

## Budgetary Requests

- None