

## Philosophy Department Assessment Meeting Report

This year the Philosophy Department held its annual meeting on assessment on May 18, 2023. Present at the meeting were Professors Dow and Ablondi (Campolo is on sabbatical). As in years past, we ranked our (five) graduating seniors according to our learning goal rubric. The results are attached in a file named 'Philosophy Assessment Rubric Seniors 2023'.

Following this discussion, we turned to the topic of our curricular offerings in relation to the department's Learning Goal Four. We believe that we have done a very good job of developing our students' ability to express their ideas orally and in writing. All of our courses include a substantial amount of discussion, and many require student presentations. Further, each of our courses (save Logic) include essay exams and/or multiple papers, including the submission of drafts requiring revisions. Several classes contain an element of in-class writing as well.

As noted last year, though, with the recent loss of two of our five faculty, meeting *all* of our learning goals will be more of a challenge in the future. In the area of ethics in particular we have a need for someone specializing in applied ethics.

We also discussed a possible change to the major, specifically with regard to requirements. We feel that the requirement of three history courses but no metaphysics or epistemology courses and only one values course does not reflect what we consider to be the equal importance of Learning Goals 1 and 2. Discussions on this matter will continue throughout the upcoming academic year, when Dr. Campolo has returned from his sabbatical.

With regard to the Assessment Committee's remarks about our direct assessment, we wondered if recording (anonymously) the average of the grades for majors in each of the required classes (the three history classes, Logic, an ethics class, and Senior Seminar) would be helpful. (For example, in Fall 2024, the average grade for the six majors in Ancient Philosophy was 3.42.)

Finally, we made updates to the evaluations of the degree to which our courses offered in the 2022-2023 academic year met our Learning Goals. This document is also attached, as is the aggregate data from the past three years of our senior survey.