

**COURSE ASSESSMENT REPORT**

**I. Background Information**

1. Course assessed:  
 Course Discipline Code and Number: PHL 200  
 Course Title: Existentialism  
 Division/Department Codes: Humanities, Behavioral, and Social Science
  
2. Semester assessment was conducted (check one):  
 Fall 20\_\_  
 Winter 2012  
 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 and the total number of students enrolled in the course.  
 21 students were assessed out of 26 students enrolled.
  
6. If all students were not assessed, describe how students were selected for the assessment. *(Include your sampling method and rationale.)* The number of students assessed was determined by those present on the day the assessment took place.

**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 using the revised outcomes and assessment instrument.
  
2. List each outcome that was assessed for this report exactly as it is stated on the course master syllabus. *(You can copy and paste these from CurricUNET's WR report.)*
  1. **The student will identify major existentialist thinkers and/or concepts.**
  2. **The student will apply major concepts in the discussion of existentialist themes**
  
3. For each outcome that was assessed, indicate the standard of success exactly as it is stated on the course master syllabus. *(You can copy and paste these from CurricUNET's WR report.)*  
 Students were scored on a 0-3 scale for each learning outcome. The standard of success is an overall average of 2.1 for each outcome.
  
4. Briefly describe assessment results based on data collected during the course assessment. Indicate the extent to which students are achieving each of the learning outcomes listed above and state whether the standard of success was met for each outcome. ***In a separate document, include a summary of the data collected and any rubrics or scoring guides used for the assessment.***  
 For Outcome #1 the overall average was 2.15. For Outcome #2 the overall average was 2.52. As such, the standard of success was achieved for both outcomes.

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5. Describe the areas of strength and weakness in students' achievement of the learning outcomes shown in the assessment results. *(This should be an interpretation of the assessment results described above and a thoughtful analysis of student performance.)*

Strengths: Students did very well in the application part of the assessment. As this outcome involves an essay response by the students, it is typically more challenging. The work of the students in applying and analyzing the concept of absurdity was impressive.

Weaknesses: Students did not do as well in the identification part of the assessment as is typically seen in other courses. It may be that more work needs to be done making sure students have a firm grasp of basic concepts.

**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. *(If students met all expectations, describe your plan for continuous improvement.)* Students did not demonstrate the level of proficiency with basic concepts as is typical for this type of assessment. This information will be shared with faculty teaching the course. It will be recommended that more time be spent with basic or core concepts in lecture and class discussion.

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.

- 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.  1<sup>st</sup> Day Handouts

Change/rationale:

- e.  Course assignments

Change/rationale:

- f.  Course materials (check all that apply)

Textbook

Handouts

Other:

- g.  Instructional methods

Change/rationale: More time spent in lecture and class discussion on core concepts.

- h.  Individual lessons & activities

Change/rationale:

3. What is the timeline for implementing these actions?

**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. The assessment tool was helpful in identifying strengths and weaknesses.

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?

**Please return completed form to the Office of Curriculum & Assessment, SC 247.**

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All X Selected \_\_\_\_\_

If "All", provide the report date for the next full review: Winter 2015

If "Selected", provide the report date for remaining outcomes: \_\_\_\_\_

**Submitted by:**

Print: Charles R. Johnson  
Faculty/Preparer

Signature 


Date: 5/31/12

Print: Dena Blair  
Department Chair

Signature 

Date: 5/31/12

Print: Bill Abernethy  
Dean/Administrator

Signature 

Date: MAY 31 2012

**COURSE ASSESSMENT REPORT**

**I. Background Information**

1. Course assessed:  
 Course Discipline Code and Number: PHL 200  
 Course Title: Existentialism  
 Division/Department Codes: HUM

2. Semester assessment was conducted (check one):

- Fall 2008\_\_
- Winter 20\_\_
- 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.  
 10/20 (approximately)

6. Describe how students were selected for the assessment.

*Students who attended class on the day the Assessment Assignment was distributed were those who completed the assessment.*

**II. Results**

1. Briefly describe the changes that were implemented in the course as a result of the previous assessment.

*I am not aware of the results of the previous assessment, and am therefore also not aware if any changes were implemented based upon these results.*

2. List each outcome that was assessed for this report exactly as it is stated on the course master syllabus.

*(1) The student will identify the major ideas of representative existentialist thinkers*

*(2) The student will raise awareness by identifying his/her personal position on central existentialist questions.*

*\* Please note that the Outcomes were slightly modified on the actual Assessment Tool; they read: (1) "Identify and define major ideas of representative existentialist thinkers," and (2) "Identify and articulate personal position on two central existential questions."*

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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.*  
See attached report
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.*  
See attached report
5. Describe the areas of strength and weakness in students' achievement of the learning outcomes shown in assessment results.  
Strengths: See attached report  
  
Weaknesses: See attached report

**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.  
*As no significant weaknesses were found (see report), there is no action required at this time in this connection. However, as the Outcomes that are stated on the Master Syllabus for this course are ill-formed, the Master Syllabus, and, possibly, the Assessment Tool associated with the course, will be revised.*
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.
  - a.  Outcomes/Assessments on the Master Syllabus  
Change/rationale:  
*The outcomes as stated on the Master Syllabus are ill-formed. In one case (outcome #2), it is probably not possible to measure whether the outcome has actually been achieved.*
  - b.  Objectives/Evaluation on the Master Syllabus  
Change/rationale:  
*The objectives may need to be reformulated so that they can be more easily measurable.*
  - c.  Course pre-requisites on the Master Syllabus  
Change/rationale:
  - d.  1<sup>st</sup> 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?  
*Master Syllabus for this course is due to be revised this semester (Winter 2009)*

**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.  
*I think that the course could have been adequately assessed without employing a special Assessment Tool, by simply considering the grades that students earned on their exams and other assignments, especially given that there is only one section of this course to assess. Thus, I found the Assessment Process unnecessary.*

2. If the assessment tools were not effective, describe the changes that will be made for future assessments.  
*Since I'm assuming that the Assessment Process will not be eliminated, I suppose the process will continue on in much the same way it has, save for the changes described in response to question III.1 above, which are also detailed in the attached report.*

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: Fall 2011  
If "Selected", provide the report date for remaining outcomes: \_\_\_\_\_

**Submitted by:**

Print: Corinne Painter Signature: [Signature] Date: 02.12.2009  
Faculty/Preparer  
Print: Paullette Grotrian Signature: [Signature] Date: 2.18.09  
Department Chair  
Print: [Signature] Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: FEB 23 2009  
Dean/Administrator