

College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) 2016 - 2017 Yearly Assessment Report

If you would like to preview this form before you begin submitting, please follow this link:
https://myusf.usfca.edu/sites/default/files/2017_Yearly_Assessment_Report_preview.pdf

NOTES:

- *2016-2017 Yearly Assessment Reports* for all CAS Majors, Minors, Graduate Programs, and Non-Degree Seeking Programs are due by 10/28/17; early submissions are welcome.
- Reports, including Curriculum Map(s) should be submitted to the Program Assistant; he/she will upload documents to Gnosis.
 - Undergraduate programs (majors and minors) must include two curricular maps – one showing how courses map onto Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) and one showing how PLOs map onto Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs).
 - Graduate programs must include one curricular map showing how courses map onto PLOs.
 - Non-degree seeking programs must include one curricular map showing how PLOs map onto ILOs.
- This form **cannot be saved** once it is in-progress. If you close out of the form before submission, responses will be **discarded**. Please ensure you are ready to fill out the full form once you begin, and/or keep a backup copy of your responses.
- If you encounter any issues while utilizing this form, please contact Corie Schwabenland Garcia, Academic Data and Assessment Analyst, at x4285 or ceschwabenland@usfca.edu

Identifying Information 

Name of Program *

Catholic Studies and Social Thought

Type of Program *

Minor

**College of Arts and Sciences Division ***

Arts

**Name/Title/E-mail Address of Submitter ***

Cathal Doherty/cdohertysj@usfca.edu

Name(s)/E-mail Address(es) of Additional Individual(s) Who Should Receive Feedback

Submissions via the following Google form are strongly encouraged. However, if your department/program wishes to upload its assessment report in lieu of completing this form, you can do so here. Would you like to upload a PDF version of your Yearly Assessment Report?

Yes

No

Yearly Assessment Report PDF Upload

If you wish to submit a separate PDF report, please be sure to include all the components listed in this google form (screen shots of the google form are available at

https://myusf.usfca.edu/sites/default/files/2017_Yearly_Assessment_Report_preview.pdf)

Please upload a PDF version of your Yearly Assessment Report here: *

Please upload your program's PLO x Courses Curriculum map here (all file types allowed) *

Please upload your program's PLO x ILO Curriculum map here (all file types allowed)

If you would like to upload any other files (i.e. rubrics used to evaluate student work products, scripts/surveys/other indirect methods used to evaluate student work), you may upload them here. Please use descriptive file names (i.e. "SociologyAssessmentRubric").

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Mission Statement

Please type and/or copy-and-paste directly into the space below:

*

The Minor in Catholic Studies and Social Thought was originally conceived as a Catholic interdisciplinary engagement between/among forms of Catholic social thought as expressed in social theory, the Catholic socio-cultural imaginary, and the Roman Catholic magisterial discourse on society. The program presents the principles and vision of Catholic social teaching as a complement to any major field of study from business to education to the sciences to the arts and humanities. Thus, the Catholic Studies and Social Thought Minor at USF offers students an opportunity to explore the Catholic intellectual tradition from a variety of perspectives—geared toward a new generation and different century. The program invites analysis drawn from theology, philosophy, the social sciences, history, literature, business and the arts, and aims at revitalizing our reflection on life by forming citizens to serve the city in the world in the just tradition. Under this structure, the curriculum is divided into three areas of study:

1. History and Society
 2. Theology and Philosophy
 3. Culture and Aesthetics
-

Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

Please type and/or copy-and-paste directly into the space below:

*

- (1) Contextualize challenges to the fulfillment of Catholic social teaching (since Pope Leo XIII's 1891 encyclical, *Rerum Novarum*) through research on the manifold ways Catholic social action interfaces with modern and postmodern secular cultures.
 - (2) Account for some of the major intellectual, social, historical, and aesthetic perspectives developed in the ambit of Catholic culture.
 - (3) Become conversant in the complexities of Catholic social teaching in a world characterized by ecumenical and interfaith differences, interreligious conflict, and violence.
-

Curriculum Maps

Please upload your Curriculum Maps below. All file types (Excel, PDF, etc.) are allowed.

Please upload your PLOs to Courses Curriculum map here *

Please upload your PLOs to ILOs Curriculum map here *

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Assessment Methods

Which of your Program Learning Outcomes did you assess during 2016-2017? *

#3: Ecumenical and Interfaith dimensions

What student work products did you use to assess your PLO(s)? Pick one or more direct methods from the list below and briefly describe below what specific work product(s) you used. *

- Published (Standardized) Test (e.g., Major Field Test)
- Class Tests & Quizzes with Embedded Questions
- Class Presentations
- Off-Campus Presentations (NGOs, clients, agencies, etc.)
- Research Projects Reports
- Case Studies
- Term Papers
- Portfolio
- Artistic Performances, Recitals & Products
- Capstone Projects
- Poster Presentations
- Comprehensive Exams
- Thesis, Dissertation
- Pass Rates on Certification or Licensure Exams
- Group Projects
- In-/Out-of Class Presentations
- Competency Interviews (e.g., oral exams)
- Simulations
- Juried Presentations



Other: E-mail question


Brief description of student work products used to assess PLOs: *

A direct question was e-mailed to the students: "Explain briefly one concrete way in which Catholic Social Teaching is relevant to a multicultural and pluralistic culture."

What tools did you use to evaluate the student work product(s) (e.g. rubric, test score)? *

Rubric

Please upload any tools used to evaluate student work product(s) here in PDF format only. Please use descriptive file names (e.g. "SociologyAssessmentRubric.PDF").

 CSSTAssessmentR...

Who evaluated the student work product? Check all that apply. *

- FT faculty members who were not instructor(s) of the course(s)
- FT faculty members who were instructor(s) of the course(s)
- PT faculty members who were not instructor(s) of the course(s)
- PT faculty members who were instructor(s) of the course(s)
- Other: Question was administered outside a course framework

Describe the calibration procedure you employed, if any (i.e., how did you assure that faculty raters were consistent with each other in how they rated the student work products):

N/A

What indirect methods did you employ, if any?

- Student Survey
- Student Interview
- Focus Groups
- Reflection Sessions
- Reflection Essays
- Faculty Survey
- Exit (end of program) Survey
- Exit (end of program) Interview
- Alumni Survey
- Employer Survey
- Diaries or Journals
- Data from Institutional Surveys
- Curriculum/Syllabus Analysis
- Other:

Please indicate and briefly describe what indirect methods you used (and/or attach the survey/script/interview below).

N/A

Attach survey/script/interview here as needed

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Results

What were the direct data results? *

The response was very encouraging and showed an excellent grasp of the ecumenical and interfaith aspects of Catholic Social Teaching.

What were the indirect data results? (If applicable)

N/A

How do you interpret these results? What do they mean? *

The small number of students who have opted for the CSST have a keen sense of the positive role Catholic Social Teaching can play in constructing a just and pluralist society. Nonetheless, there are too few students in the program for it to continue be viable (1-3 students at most).

Closing the Loop



"Assessment is most likely to lead to improvement when it is part of a larger set of conditions that promote change: Assessment alone changes little. Its greatest contribution comes on campuses where the quality of teaching and learning is visibly valued and worked at. On such campuses, the push to improve educational performance is a visible and primary goal of leadership; improving the quality of undergraduate education is central to the institution's planning, budgeting, and personnel decisions. On such campuses, information about learning outcomes is seen as an integral part of decision making, and avidly sought."

--9 Principles of Good Practice for Assessing Student Learning: American Association for Higher Education

Purpose: In the current field of higher education today, Assessment of student learning is seen as a critical tool to assist in the mission of student centered education. It is a way for faculty and the other university constituents involved in learning to use data driven results to bring about needed curricular or programmatic changes to improve student outcomes.

In the previous section, you have analyzed the data to get some critical insights into student learning. This section is for our way forward, and touches upon a few core areas:

What might you do as a result of these assessment results? What curricular or programmatic changes might you implement? *

- Revision of PLOs
- Changes in pedagogical practices
- Revision of program course sequence
- Revision of course(s) content
- Curriculum Changes (e.g. addition and/or deletion of courses)
- Modified program policies or procedures
- Designed measurement tools more aptly suited for the task
- Improved within and across school/college collaboration
- Improved within and across school/college communication
- Revised student learning outcomes in one or more courses
- Modified rubric
- Developed new rubric
- Developed more stringent measures (key assessments)
- Modified course offering schedules
- Changes to faculty and/or staff
- Changes in program modality of delivery
- Other: Revision of the course curriculum

Description of the Proposed Changes (as checked above): *

There are too few students for CSST to continue as a viable minor in its current format. Therefore, the minor needs to be recast if it is to continue.

Amendments to your assessment plan: If, in course of conducting current assessment, you felt a need to amend the assessment plan itself for future assessments, please discuss it here in a few sentences: *

Soliciting direct data from students in a minor which is not housed in a department poses a challenge. The method I tried this year was to e-mail minors directly with a question. Ideally, a broader range of data, including indirect data such as student interviews would improve the assessment of PLOs.

In any case, I believe that this program, which is relatively dormant needs an overhaul to broaden its appeal. To that end, I intend to seek approval to change the title of this minor (which is cumbersome) simply to 'Catholic Studies', in the hopes of attracting more students.

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