

Assessment Report AY 2020-2021

1. Identifying Information

Name of Program: Saint Ignatius Institute
Type of Program: Certificate Program (Saint Ignatius Institute—living learning community)
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2. Mission Statement

Following revisions in 2019/2020, the mission statement is as follows:

Mission Statement:

The St. Ignatius Institute is a core living/learning community at the University of San Francisco (USF) that is distinctively Jesuit. The SII curriculum and community challenge students to think critically and creatively; to reason and ask questions; and to attain a deeper understanding of the human experience across time and space. Our academic approach is multidisciplinary, historical, and global. Our curriculum integrates the study of influential ideas from around the globe to engage with the challenging realities of our world. Through intellectual inquiry, community involvement, service to others, and exploration of spirituality, SII students tackle “Great Questions”—the ideas and issues people have debated and discussed for centuries. Through SII core classes and symposia, students are challenged to explore new ideas, uncover old theories, listen respectfully to opinions different than their own, and, in the senior symposium, reflect on their own education and future paths.

3. Program Learning Outcomes

1. Identify major themes, key concepts, and perennial questions in works across the humanities (arts, literature, history, philosophy, religion and theology)
2. Interpret and analyze complex and contested histories and contexts of Christianity in the world before 1800
3. Employ interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, or discipline-specific methods in scholarly inquiry
4. Articulate critical arguments using relevant primary and secondary sources
5. Evaluate challenges facing local and global communities in light of community engagement
6. Articulate their own intellectual and personal gifts in light of major world religions, particularly the Catholic, Jesuit traditions of *cura personalis*, finding

God in all things, discernment of one's deepest desires, contemplation in action, and becoming people for (and with) others

4. Curricular Map

Following revisions in 2019/2020, the certificate requirements are as follows:

Ancient Philosophy

SII 210 Ancient Philosophy

Theology

SII 106 Sacred Scripture

SII 201 Catholic Thought

Ethics

SII 214 Theories of Ethics

SII 215 Ethical Theory/Practice

SII Symposium (8 units)

One 2-unit SII Symposium per year is required for the first three years, and Senior Symposium is required in the final year.

5. Assessment schedule between APRs; description of the methodology for the required and/or alternative assessment process; description of results

The new SII curriculum, as well as a revised Mission Statement and SII PLOs, were developed in 2019-20; submitted to Curriculog in spring 2020; and approved in time for implementation finally this semester, Fall 2021. These were developed by SII faculty and directors in order to articulate SII's distinctive mission and identity in conversation with the new Honors College, and to align the SII curriculum with that of the Honors College, in such a way that the two programs can support and augment one another, and so that interested students may complete both programs if they wish.

No PLOs were assessed in 2020/2021, and last year's report focused on the transition to remote learning. However, the SII assessment plan creates a roadmap for future assessment as the new curriculum launches. The first step is to develop a set of guidelines for SII symposia, as the distinctive courses in which SII students come together to consider the "enduring questions" on which the program focuses. This process of discernment will enable the program to extend assessment of the PLOs to the core courses offered in Philosophy, Theology, and Ethics.

6. Description of how the results were shared with faculty and how your department/program responded to the results. Plans for future improvement or assessment of your program.

As the new curriculum gets underway, SII will provide fora for participating faculty to share ideas and offer feedback on how the requirements are working, especially in

regards to SII's coordination with the Honors College. These sessions will enable SII to conduct an ongoing dialogue on its mission within CAS and the university at large.

7. Discussion of any significant feedback from your previous year's report and how your department/program responded to that feedback.

Feedback last year was centered on the transition to a remote format during the COVID 19 pandemic. Overall, the program successfully adapted its curriculum to fully online instruction, retaining its core sense of community while enabling students who needed to participate asynchronously.