

Theology and Religious Studies, BA



Assessment Overview & Results Summary

College/School:	College of Arts and Sciences
Measures Used:	The department draws its evidence from capstone projects submitted by THRS majors enrolled in the spring Senior Seminar course, THRS 450W: Religion, Tradition, and Culture.
Process for Interpretation of Evidence:	Faculty members work together to collect, analyze, and interpret evidence collected each year and report that information back to the College's Assessment Team. Typically, the department assesses its three learning outcomes over a three-year cycle, so that each learning outcome is assessed twice over six years.
How Findings are Used:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Changes to curriculum/pedagogy✓ Changes to assessment methods
Results Summary and Continuous Improvement Actions for AY 2020-2021:	In 2019-20, the Theology and Religious Studies Department assessed graduating seniors in THRS 450W: Religion, Tradition, and Culture for their ability to demonstrate an understanding of the categories, technical vocabulary, and well-known examples, etc., essential to the relevant subject matter. We measured initial drafts of their capstone paper using a rubric formulated for that purpose. Students showed a range of abilities, but these papers may not represent the best efforts of our graduating students because they were drafts rather than final papers. We intend to use these results to both alter the way that we have been assessing our seniors and to make curricular changes to the major.