

Horizon University

Learning Outcomes
Assessment Report
October 2015

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Horizon University

Learning Outcomes Assessment Report

I. Learning Outcomes Assessment Overview

Horizon University currently utilizes an academic assessment program that maintains a systematic, documented, and sustained evaluation process of student learning outcomes. The academic assessment process involves both formative and summative evaluations utilizing direct and indirect measures of assessing student learning outcomes, and is designed to facilitate a data driven decision making process for improvement and institutional effectiveness. Assessment data, rubrics, scores, and samples are located in the office of Institutional Effectiveness.

Academic Calendar

Fall Semester	Winter Semester	Spring Semester	Summer Semester
September - November	January - March	April - June	July - August

Student Learning Outcomes Instruments and Measures

Assessment of Program Learning Outcomes	Assessment Process	Type of Assessment	Assessment Schedule
Core Institutional Instruments	Student Experience Inventory (SEI)	Indirect/Formative	Spring 2015
	Graduating Student Inventory (GSI)	Indirect/Summative	Spring 2015
Course Evaluations	Selected Courses	Indirect/Summative	Summer 2015
BBS Biblical Studies	Selected Bible Core Courses	Formative/Direct	Fall 2015
	Selected Bible Core Courses	Summative/Direct	Fall 2015
BLM Leadership in Ministry	Selected Bible Core Courses	Formative/Direct	Fall 2015
	Selected Bible Core Courses	Summative/Direct	Fall 2015
BOL Organizational Leadership	Selected Bible Core Courses	Formative/Direct	Fall 2015
	Selected Bible Core Courses	Summative/Direct	Fall 2015
General Education	Selected GE Courses	Formative/Direct	Fall 2015
	Selected GE Courses	Summative/Direct	Fall 2015

II. Assessment of Institutional Learning Outcomes

This section presents summary data of indirect measures of institutional learning outcomes as indicated in the Graduating Student Inventory.

2015 Graduating Student Inventory

The top five areas of personal growth and educational outcomes:

1. Ability to interpret scripture	4.8*
2. Ability to minister to the needs of other	4.8
3. Ability to lead effectively	4.8
4. Self-discipline and focus	4.8
5. Clarity of vocational or ministry goals	4.8

* Rated on a 5-Point Scale

2015 Graduating Student Inventory

Measures of Personal Growth and Educational Outcomes

Ability to interpret scripture	4.8*
Ability to preach/teach	4.5
Ability to evangelize	4.0
Ability to minister to the needs of others	4.8
Ability to lead effectively	4.8
Empathy for the poor and oppressed	4.3
Ability to pray	4.0
Enthusiasm for learning	4.5
Insight into the troubles of others	4.3
Desire to become an authority in my field	4.0
Trust in God	4.5
Self-discipline and focus	4.8
Ability to live one's faith in daily	4.0
Clarity of vocational or ministry goals	4.8
Self-confidence	4.5
Critical thinking	4.8
Self-knowledge	4.3
Strength of spiritual life	4.8

Average Score for All Measures 4.4

* Rated on a 5-Point Scale

The performance standard for this learning outcome assessment is a total aggregate score of 4.0/80% (minimum score for "successful") and 4.5/90% (minimum score for "excellent").

III. Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

- A. This section presents summary data of indirect measures of student learning outcomes as indicated in the Student Experience Inventory.

2015 Student Experience Inventory (student satisfaction with learning outcomes)

<u>Line Item</u>	<u>Satisfaction*</u>
11. Online courses provide a quality learning experience	4.50
18. Assignments are personally challenging and encourage critical thinking	5.60
20. I am learning valuable principles that apply to my chosen field	5.60
21. My educational experiences are relevant to my current ministry	5.90
23. I am developing a deeper spiritual life and faith commitment	6.00
24. My seminary experience has deepened my appreciation for diverse perspectives	5.80
25. My degree program provides an integration of theory, theology, and application	5.90
33. The internship/field study programs provide valuable learning and growth experiences	6.00
<u>Average Score (4.6 Minimum/5.4 Excellent)</u>	<u>5.66</u>

* Rated on a 6-Point Scale

The performance standard for this learning outcome assessment is a total aggregate score of 4.6/80% (minimum score for “successful”) and 5.4/90% (minimum score for “excellent”).

- B. This section presents summary data of indirect measures of student learning outcomes as indicated in the Course Evaluations.

Course Evaluations: Progress Related to Course Learning Outcomes

<u>Bible Core Courses</u>	<u>Score</u>
Biblical Interpretation: Hermeneutics	4.7*
Old Testament Survey	4.0
New Testament Survey	4.8
Life of Christ	2.8
Introduction to Biblical Languages	4.7
Christianity in the Marketplace	4.5
Pastoral Epistles	4.5
Spiritual Formation	3.0
Leadership Development	3.8
Introduction to Discipleship	4.2
<u>Average Score for All Measures</u>	<u>4.4*</u>

* Rated on a 5-Point Scale

The performance standard for this learning outcome assessment is a total aggregate score of 4.0/80% (minimum score for “successful”) and 4.5/90% (minimum score for “excellent”).

General Education Core Courses	Score
Intro to Writing and Research	4.5*
Critical Thinking	4.0
Human Growth and Development	4.7
Church History	4.5
World Religions	4.7
Apologetics	4.6
Basic College Math	4.0
Average Score for All Measures	4.3*

* Rated on a 5-Point Scale

The performance standard for this learning outcome assessment is a total aggregate score of 4.0/80% (minimum score for “successful”) and 4.5/90% (minimum score for “excellent”).

- C. This section presents summary data of direct measures of student learning outcomes as indicated in the selected course assignments for assessment.

Selected Core Courses for Direct Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

Selected Bible Core Courses	Learning Outcomes	Aggregate Score
Biblical Interpretation: Hermeneutics	97%	4.8
Old Testament Survey	88%	4.4
New Testament Survey	90%	4.5
Biblical Worldviews	92%	4.6
Introduction to Ethics	94%	4.7
Goals, Priorities, and Attitudes	98%	4.9
Biblical Concepts of Leadership	95%	4.8
Average Score for Selected Measures		4.7 (94%)*

Selected Course: Biblical Interpretation - Hermeneutics

Student Learning Outcomes	Aggregate Score**	Percent Score
Presentation of historical / biographical background information	4.0	80%
Critique of Hermeneutic employed by an individual or school of theology	3.0	60%
Discussion of related theological issues and concepts	3.5	70%
Definition of key hermeneutical terms	4.0	80%
Academic writing, formatting and reference citations	3.0	60%
TOTAL Learning Outcomes Scores	3.5	70%

**Rated on a 5-Point Scale

The performance standard for this learning outcome assessment is a total aggregate score of 4.0/80% (minimum score for “successful”) and 4.5/90% (minimum score for “excellent”).

Selected Course: New Testament Survey

Student Learning Outcomes	Aggregate Score**	Percent Score
Analysis of Biblical books within their original historical setting and cultural context	4.5	90%
Understanding of main themes and messages of the biblical book	4.0	80%
Explain and differentiate major dimensions of various cultures and worldview	3.5	70%
Overall presentation and development; includes appropriate research resources properly cited.	3.0	60%
TOTAL Learning Outcomes Scores	3.5	70%

**Rated on a 5-Point Scale

The performance standard for this learning outcome assessment is a total aggregate score of 4.0/80% (minimum score for “successful”) and 4.5/90% (minimum score for “excellent”).

Selected Leadership & Ministry Courses Learning Outcomes Aggregate Score

Biblical Counseling	95%	4.7
Current Issues in Management	n/a	n/a
Foundations of Preaching & Teaching	97%	4.8
Evangelism and Discipleship	80%	4.0
Organizational Behavior	90%	4.5
Principles of Management	n/a	n/a
Small Groups in the Church	91%	4.6

Average Score for Selected Measures 4.5 (90%)*

* Rated on a 5-Point Scale

The performance standard for this learning outcome assessment is a total aggregate score of 4.0/80% (minimum score for “successful”) and 4.5/90% (minimum score for “excellent”).

Selected General Ed Core Courses Learning Outcomes Aggregate Score

Intro to Writing and Research	n/a	n/a
Critical Thinking	84%	4.2
Church History	87%	4.4
Intro to Philosophy	85%	4.3
Basic College Math	89%	4.5

Average Score for Selected Measures 4.4 (88%)*

* Rated on a 5-Point Scale

The performance standard for this learning outcome assessment is a total aggregate score of 4.0/80% (minimum score for “successful”) and 4.5/90% (minimum score for “excellent”).

Selected Course: Church History 2

Student Learning Outcomes	Aggregate Score**	Percent Score
Describe the basic historical context and setting of significant events in Church History	4.5	90%
Analyze and explain the historical significance of major events in Church History	4.5	90%
Demonstrate the appropriate contextualization and application of historical issues	3.5	70%
Demonstrate an effective use of reference works and resources appropriate to historical study (including all course materials).	4.0	80%
TOTAL Learning Outcomes Scores	4.1*	83%

**Rated on a 5-Point Scale

The performance standard for this learning outcome assessment is a total aggregate score of 4.0/80% (minimum score for “successful”) and 4.5/90% (minimum score for “excellent”).

Educational Mission and Institutional Effectiveness Assessment

This table presents a composite assessment of educational effectiveness and outcomes related to the institutional purpose and mission statement.

Mission Statement Components	Indirect Measures*	Direct Measures**	Aggregate Score
Critical thinking skills	4.5	4.2	4.4
Broad knowledge base	4.0	4.4	4.2
Biblically integrated understanding of their vocation	4.4	4.5	4.4
Servant Leadership	4.0	4.8	4.4
Evangelism and Discipleship	3.8	4.0	3.9
Composite Score			4.3

* Scores taken from the annual SEI and GSI data

** Selected core course assignments assess learning competencies related to the mission statement

IV. Measures of Effectiveness

Student Learning Outcomes Scorecard. This is a scorecard of the aggregated results from all measures of student learning outcomes.

Measures of Student Learning Outcomes	Minimum Value for "Success"	Minimum Value for "Excellent"	Current Score*
Indirect Measures			
Graduating Student Inventory	4.0	4.5	4.4
Student Experience Inventory	4.0	4.5	4.8
Course Evaluations	4.0	4.5	4.4
Direct Measures			
Bible Core Courses	4.0	4.5	4.7 (94%)
Leadership and Ministry Courses	4.0	4.5	4.5 (90%)
General Education Core Courses	4.0	4.5	4.4 (88%)
Practicum	n/a	n/a	n/a
Institutional Education Effectiveness Score	4.0	4.5	4.5

* 5-point scale

The performance standard for this learning outcome assessment is a total aggregate score of 4.0/80% (minimum score for "successful") and 4.5/90% (minimum score for "excellent").

V. Summary and Suggestions

A. Institutional Objectives

Institutional learning objective scores related to measures of personal growth and educational outcomes based on the results of the 2014 Graduating Student Inventory indicated an aggregate score of 4.4 on a 5-point scale indicating a strong score for successful performance.

The lowest scoring items indicate areas of curriculum review:

2014 Graduating Student Inventory

Measures of Personal Growth and Educational Outcomes

1. Ability to evangelize	4.0
2. Ability to pray	4.0
3. Desire to become an authority in my field	4.0
4. Ability to live one's faith in daily	4.0

The composite assessment of institutional learning outcomes based on both direct and indirect measures of student learning outcomes indicated a strong score at 4.3

Mission Statement Components	Indirect Measures*	Direct Measures**	Aggregate Score
Critical thinking skills	4.5	4.2	4.4
Broad knowledge base	4.0	4.4	4.2
Biblically integrated understanding of their vocation	4.4	4.5	4.4
Servant Leadership	4.0	4.8	4.4
Evangelism and Discipleship	3.8	4.0	3.9
Composite Score			4.3

* Scores taken from the annual SEI and GSI data

** Selected core course assignments assess learning competencies related to the mission statement

Suggestions:

1. Determine key areas of academic review based on the lowest performing scores on the 2015 Graduating Student Inventory and suggest curricular revisions to increase performance.
2. Determine key areas of academic review based on the lowest performing scores on the composite assessment of institutional learning outcomes assessment and suggest curricular revisions to increase performance.

B. Student Learning Outcomes

The composite assessment of program learning outcomes based on selected core course assignments indicated an aggregate score of 4.3 on a 5-point scale indicating strong performance.

Indirect Measures

Measures of Student Learning Outcomes	Minimum Value for "Success"	Minimum Value for "Excellent"	Current Score*
Graduating Student Inventory	4.0	4.5	4.4
Student Experience Inventory	4.0	4.5	4.8
Course Evaluations	4.0	4.5	4.4
Composite Score	4.0	4.5	4.5

Direct Measures

Measures of Student Learning Outcomes	Minimum Value for "Success"	Minimum Value for "Excellent"	Current Score*
Bible Core Courses	4.0	4.5	4.7 (94%)
Leadership and Ministry Courses	4.0	4.5	4.5 (90%)
General Education Core Courses	4.0	4.5	4.4 (88%)
Practicum	n/a	n/a	n/a
Composite Score	4.0	4.5	4.5

Suggestions:

1. Implement practicum assessment in 2016.
2. Implement Capstone courses or projects in 2016.
3. Review the curriculum in order to improve in lowest scoring areas.
4. Continue to systematically collect student samples of course assignments for direct measures of assessing student learning outcomes.