

Horizon University

Learning Outcomes
Assessment Report
October 2016

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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 2016
	Graduating Student Inventory (GSI)	Indirect/Summative	Spring 2016
Course Evaluations	Selected Courses	Indirect/Summative	Summer 2016
BBS Biblical Studies	Selected Bible Core Courses	Formative/Direct	Fall 2016
	Selected Bible Core Courses	Summative/Direct	Fall 2016
BLM Leadership in Ministry	Selected Bible Core Courses	Formative/Direct	Fall 2016
	Selected Bible Core Courses	Summative/Direct	Fall 2016
BOL Organizational Leadership	Selected Bible Core Courses	Formative/Direct	Fall 2016
	Selected Bible Core Courses	Summative/Direct	Fall 2016
General Education	Selected GE Courses	Formative/Direct	Fall 2016
	Selected GE Courses	Summative/Direct	Fall 2016

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.

2016 Graduating Student Inventory

The top five areas of personal growth and educational outcomes:

1. Ability to interpret scripture	4.6
2. Critical thinking	4.6
3. Ability to minister to the needs of others	4.4
4. Ability to lead effectively	4.4
5. Enthusiasm for learning	4.4

* Rated on a 5-Point Scale

2016 Graduating Student Inventory

Measures of Personal Growth and Educational Outcomes

Ability to interpret scripture	4.6*
Ability to preach/teach	4.2
Ability to evangelize	4.2
Ability to minister to the needs of others	4.4
Ability to lead effectively	4.4
Empathy for the poor and oppressed	4.0
Ability to pray	3.8
Enthusiasm for learning	4.4
Insight into the troubles of others	4.4
Desire to become an authority in my field	4.2
Trust in God	4.0
Self-discipline and focus	3.8
Ability to live one's faith in daily	4.2
Clarity of vocational or ministry goals	4.2
Self-confidence	4.4
Critical thinking	4.6
Self-knowledge	4.4
Strength of spiritual life	4.4
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").

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.

2016 Student Experience Inventory (student satisfaction with learning outcomes)

Line Item	Satisfaction**
11. Online courses provide a quality learning experience	5.1
18. Assignments are personally challenging and encourage critical thinking	5.1
20. I am learning valuable principles that apply to my chosen field	5.4
21. My educational experiences are relevant to my current ministry	5.1
23. I am developing a deeper spiritual life and faith commitment	5.4
24. My educational experience has deepened my appreciation for diverse perspectives	5.3
25. My degree program provides an integration of theory, theology, and application	5.4
33. The internship/field study programs provide valuable learning and growth experiences	N/A
Average Score (4.8 Minimum/5.4 Excellent)	5.3

** 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

Selected Courses	Learning Outcome	Score*
Accounting for Managers	90%	4.5
Case Studies in Ethics	90%	4.5
Case Studies in Leadership	95%	4.8
Church History II	100%	5.0
Communication Concepts	87%	4.4
Current Issues in Management	98%	4.9
Introduction to Christian Theology	93%	4.7
Marketing Concepts and Application	95%	4.8
Organizational Behavior	100%	5.0
Principles of Management	100%	5.0
Average Score for All Measures		4.8*

* 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	85%	4.3
Old Testament Survey	92%	4.6
New Testament Survey	94%	4.7
Introduction to Ethics	87%	4.4
Biblical Concepts of Leadership	97%	4.9
Average Score for Selected Measures		4.6 (92%)*

Selected Course: New Testament Survey

Student Learning Outcomes	Aggregate Score*	Percent Score
1. Analysis of Biblical books within their original historical setting and cultural context	4.4	87%
2. Understanding of main themes and messages of the biblical book	4.0	80%
3. Explain and differentiate major dimensions of various cultures and worldview	3.8	76%
4. Overall presentation and development; includes appropriate research resources properly cited.	4.0	80%
TOTAL Learning Outcomes Scores	4.1	81%

Selected Course: Biblical Concepts of Leadership

Student Learning Outcomes	Aggregate Score*	Percent Score
1. Identify and discuss key theoretical factors as they relate to the theology and practice of biblical leadership.	4.5	90%
2. Integration or contrast of the biblically oriented material with the leadership principles that are not explicitly biblical in nature	4.0	80%
3. Apply related Christian leadership concepts in practical, comprehensive, and effective ways	4.0	80%
4. Overall presentation and development; includes appropriate research resources properly cited.	3.8	76%
TOTAL Learning Outcomes Scores	4.0	82%

*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	94%	4.7
Current Issues in Management	98%	4.9
Foundations of Preaching & Teaching	94%	4.7
Evangelism and Discipleship	n/a	n/a
Organizational Behavior	81%	4.1
Principles of Management	n/a	n/a
Small Groups in the Church	91%	4.6
Average Score for Selected Measures		4.6 (92%)*

Selected General Ed Core Courses	Learning Outcomes	Aggregate Score
Intro to Writing and Research	84%	4.2
Critical Thinking	70%	3.5
Church History	93%	4.6
Intro to Philosophy	95%	4.7
Basic College Math	93%	4.6
Average Score for Selected Measures		4.3 (86%)*

* 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 1

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

*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: Intro to Philosophy

Student Learning Outcomes	Aggregate Score*	Percent Score
Describe the basic historical context and setting of significant events in Philosophy	4.2	84%
Analyze and explain the major events in the development of Philosophical thought	4.4	88%
Demonstrate the appropriate contextualization and application of philosophical issues	4.0	80%
Demonstrate an effective use of reference works and resources appropriate to philosophical study (including all course materials).	4.6	92%
TOTAL Learning Outcomes Scores	4.3	86%

*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	4.6	4.0	4.3
Broad knowledge base	4.3	4.3	4.3
Biblically integrated understanding of their vocation	4.2	4.5	4.3
Servant Leadership	4.4	4.9	4.7
Evangelism and Discipleship	4.2	4.0	4.1
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	4.3
Student Experience Inventory	4.0	4.5	4.4
Course Evaluations	4.0	4.5	4.8
Direct Measures			
Bible Core Courses	4.0	4.5	4.6 (92%)
Leadership and Ministry Courses	4.0	4.5	4.8 (96%)
General Education Core Courses	4.0	4.5	4.3 (86%)
Practicum	4.0	4.5	4.7 (95%)
Institutional Education Effectiveness Score	4.0	4.5	4.6

* 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 2015 Graduating Student Inventory indicated an aggregate score of 4.3 on a 5-point scale indicating a strong score for successful performance.

The lowest scoring items indicate areas of curriculum review:

2015 Graduating Student Inventory

Measures of Personal Growth and Educational Outcomes

1. Ability to pray	3.8
2. Self-discipline and focus	3.8
3. Empathy for the poor and oppressed	4.0
4. Trust in God	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	4.6	4.0	4.3
Broad knowledge base	4.3	4.3	4.3
Biblically integrated understanding of their vocation	4.2	4.5	4.3
Servant Leadership	4.4	4.9	4.7
Evangelism and Discipleship	4.2	4.0	4.1
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	4.3
Student Experience Inventory	4.0	4.5	4.4
Course Evaluations	4.0	4.5	4.8
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	4.6 (92%)
Leadership and Ministry Courses	4.0	4.5	4.8 (96%)
General Education Core Courses	4.0	4.5	4.3 (86%)
Practicum	4.0	4.5	4.7 (95%)
Composite Score	4.0	4.5	4.6

Suggestions:

1. Practicum assessment was implemented. Continue to increase and expand the annual sample.
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.