**Mission Statement**

The Department's mission is to teach students at the undergraduate levels, conduct and disseminate research, and serve the community. The teaching mission includes core courses; courses to enrich the educational experience of students in other fields; and undergraduate degree programs in philosophy. The faculty's scholarly research contributes to the advancement of learning in philosophy. Faculty contribute their energy and intelligence to the development of the university and the community and relevant professional organizations.

### Philosophy Outcomes

FIU graduates should be able to achieve the following:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Content Knowledge and Skills (including Technology)</th>
<th>Direct Measures</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Content Knowledge</strong></td>
<td><strong>Procedure:</strong></td>
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</table>
| Graduates will be able to investigate and research, examine and identify, analyze and synthesize, and construct and interpret philosophical problems relevant to a specified topic. | **Assessment Instrument:** Rubric  
**Assessment Method:** The papers are completed in Capstone Course PHI4911 during the senior year in upper-division courses for Philosophy majors. A mean score for each student will be obtained from the faculty ratings. A 20-point rubric assessing the following indicators will be used:  
- Investigate & Research  
- Examine & Identify the problem/question  
- Analyzes & Synthesizes  
- Constructs & Interprets  
**Course Assessed:** PHI4911  
**Sampling:** Research papers from at least 10% or 10 (whichever is higher) from graduating majors.  
**Minimum Criteria for Success:** Graduates will attain an average minimum score of 14 on competency in Philosophy. |

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<tr>
<th>Critical Thinking</th>
<th><strong>Direct Measures</strong></th>
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<td><strong>Critical Thinking</strong></td>
<td><strong>Procedure:</strong></td>
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| Graduates will be able to identify and summarize a problem or question, analyze and examine supporting arguments and counter examples, assess the influence of context, and construct and interpret conclusions by evaluating inferences and developing ideas. | **Assessment Instrument:** Rubric  
**Assessment Method:** The papers are completed in Capstone Course PHI4911 during the senior year in upper-division courses for Philosophy majors. A mean score for each student will be obtained from the faculty ratings. A 20-point rubric assessing the following indicators will be used:  
- Identifies & Summarizes the problem/question  
- Analyzes & Examines  
- Assesses the Influence of Context  
- Constructs & Interprets  
**Course Assessed:** PHI4911  
**Sampling:** Research papers from at least 10% or 10 (whichever is higher) from graduating majors will be assessed.  
**Minimum Criteria for Success:** Graduates will attain an average minimum score of 14 on Critical Thinking. |

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<th>Communication (Oral or Written)</th>
<th><strong>Direct Measures</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Oral Communication</strong></td>
<td><strong>Procedure:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduates will be able to effectively communicate orally using good posture, language, and elaborated responses.</td>
<td><strong>Assessment Instrument:</strong> Other (Name Instrument and Describe Below)</td>
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</table>
**Assessment Method:** Each student enrolled in PHI4911, our senior capstone course will complete an exit interview. All students are asked a series of questions regarding how they came to FIU and to the Philosophy major, their experiences as a student and their plans after graduation. The recorded interviews are subsequently reviewed and evaluated according to 4 criteria, each of which is assessed relative to a 1-5 ranking. Interviews may score between 50-10 points. The following indicators are assessed:
- Subject Knowledge
- Organization
- Connection to Audience
- Delivery

**Course Assessed:** PHI4911  
**Sampling:** 10 students or 10%, whichever is larger  
**Minimum Criteria for Success:** Graduates will attain an average minimum score of 14 on Oral Communication

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<th>Written Communication Skills</th>
<th>Procedure:</th>
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| Graduates will be able to explain content and develop ideas, organize information to develop the thesis, demonstrate a command of the written language, and use the conventions of language and documentation appropriately. | **Assessment Instrument:** Rubric  
**Assessment Method:** The papers are completed in Capstone Course PHI4911 during the senior year in upper-division courses for Philosophy majors. A mean score for each student will be obtained from the faculty ratings. A 20-point rubric assessing the following indicators will be used:  
- Content & Development  
- Organization  
- Language  
- Conventions  
**Course Assessed:**  
**Sampling:** Research papers from at least 10% or 10 (whichever is higher) from graduating major.  
**Minimum Criteria for Success:** Graduates will attain an average minimum score of 14 on Written Communication. |