Mission Statement

Changes

The Christian Education degree received a major overhaul as best practices within like institutions of Huntingdon College were explored and a meeting with seasoned Christian educators was convened. Courses were reinstated and new courses were added based on the data received through the best practices study and the recommendations of local Christian Educators. The Christian Education degree had been added the previous academic year (and has been an in and out of the curriculum over the past 25 years) without an assessment plan and thus it was not assessed this past academic year (nor were there any graduates of the degree). Internship Reports were considered to be a significant part of the learning goals of the overhauled major thus a member of the department was appointed to create internship documents and begin exploring internship opportunities. This has been achieved AND students began internships in the summer of 2009.

Recommendations

Comments

The Christian education major was only its second year, therefore it had only three majors. Data collection for specific student learning outcomes was therefore quite limited.
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<tr>
<th>Goal Number</th>
<th>ReportComments</th>
<th>GoalMeasuresCombined</th>
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Goal Number 1

Demonstrate a basic knowledge and understanding of Christian Scripture

Report Comments

Goal Measures Combined

- Final exams and/or papers in the two 300 level Bible courses that are required for the degree. Rel 308 Torah; Rel 309 Prophets; Rel 313 Wisdom and Poetic Literature; Rel 312 Jesus and the Gospels; Rel 323 Paul and His Letters; Rel 325 Johannine and other New Testament Texts.

Frequency

Goal Number 2

Demonstrate an understanding of various models of leadership and how those models are reflected in the practice of Christian Education

Report Comments

Goal Measures Combined

- Final Papers for CHED 320 Christian Leadership

Frequency

Goal Number 3

Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the major Christian Doctrines

Report Comments

Goal Measures Combined

- Final Exam and/or Paper in Rel 301 Christian Theology

Frequency

Goal Number 4

Demonstrate an understanding of the development of Human Beings and its implication for Christian Education

Report Comments

Goal Measures Combined

- Final Exam and/or paper in PSYC 327 and CHED 355 Curriculum in Christian Education

Frequency
Goal Number 5

Articulate the day to day job responsibilities of a Christian Educator in a local church

Report Comments

Goal Measures Combined

• CHED 481 Internship Final report
• Comprehensive Planning Paper in CHED 330 Age level Ministries
• Christian Educator Focus Group
• Survey of graduates five years from graduation
• Reports of churches employing our graduates

Frequency
Department Name: Religion

Program Name: Religion

Department Chair: Edward Trimmer

Academic Year: 2008-09

Mission Statement

Changes

There were several significant changes to the Religion Major:

1. The Religion degree was revised and a new assessment plan was put into place during the 2008-2009 academic year.

2. Making REL 302 Christian Theology, a requirement for the major and not just an elective.

3. Making Rel 350 Christian Ethics a requirement and not merely an elective.

4. Requiring REL 221 History of Christianity I and REL 222 History of Christianity II courses. In the “old” religion exit exam 3 of the 7 were below acceptable range (less than 60%) and four were in the acceptable range (above 70%) on Christian Church development. Thus Rel 221 and 222 History of Christianity I and II were added to the required curriculum for Religion majors.

5. Adding requirement for addition Bible course.

Some of these changes were based on data from the old religion exam as well as structured discussions.

Previously students did not have to take theology or ethics or church history to graduate with a Religion degree, this was altered, in part based on conversations with officials at graduate schools. During the 2008 and 2009 academic year, the chair of the Religion department engaged in discussion with the Academic Dean at Duke and Candler and discussions with the Admissions person at Yale University. We have recent graduate’s at all three institutions. These conversations helped to guide the department’s decisions to recast the curriculum along traditional seminary lines.

Recommendations

In the past, a major field test, developed in-house was used to assess student learning. Seniors took this test during assessment day. It was determined that this was not an effective instrument for assessing student learning outcomes. An entire new assessment plan was developed.

We had nine graduating seniors of whom seven took an old religion major field exam.

Comments

The Religion Department went through significant changes during the 2008-2009 academic year. A new chairperson from outside of the department was brought to Huntingdon specifically to respond to the needs of the church and Huntingdon’s historic relationship with the United Methodist Church, by reinstating a Christian Education major and adding a Youth Ministry major. The new chairperson has successfully started new Christian Education and Youth Ministry majors at other institutions and has a long history of being a successful administrator. This new person was an additional faculty member for the department. Further a one year appointment in the department was discontinued and a successful national search was engaged to bring an Old Testament scholar to the institution. Thus as of 2009-2010 academic year the Religion Department has three majors: Religion; Christian Education; and Youth Ministry as well as two minors: Christian Education and Religion. AND the Religion faculty now includes five full-time faculty, of which two have tenure.
Department Name  Religion
Program Name  Religion

Goal Number 1
Class Size reduction of 100 level classes
ReportComments
GoalMeasuresCombined
Frequency

Goal Number 2
Class Size reduction of 200 level Religion classes
ReportComments
GoalMeasuresCombined
Frequency

Goal Number 4
Supporting current majors and building community
ReportComments
GoalMeasuresCombined
Frequency

Goal Number 5
Reexamining Recruitment and Publicity
ReportComments
GoalMeasuresCombined
Frequency

Goal Number 6
Developing a Continuing Education Program
ReportComments
GoalMeasuresCombined
Frequency
Goal Number 7
Support Ongoing Faculty Development

Report Comments

Goal Measures Combined

Frequency
### Student Learning Outcomes

**Department Name:** Religion  
**Program Name:** Religion  
**Department Chair:** Edward Trimmer  
**Academic Year:** 2008-09

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Number 1</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrate a basic knowledge and understanding of Christian Scripture</td>
<td>In the “old” religion exit exam, of the seven seniors who took the exam, one result was unacceptable (50%); two were marginally acceptable (60%) and four were very good (80% and above).</td>
<td>• Religion Major Field Test (In-house)</td>
<td>Annually</td>
<td>• Religion Major Field Test (In-house)</td>
<td>Annually</td>
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<td><strong>Number 2</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrate a basic knowledge of how the Christian Church Developed</td>
<td>In the “old” religion exit exam 3 of the 7 were below acceptable range (less than 60%) and four were in the acceptable range (above 70%) on Christian Church development. Thus Rel 221 and 222 History of Christianity I and II were added to the required curriculum for Religion majors.</td>
<td>• Religion Major Field Test (In-house)</td>
<td>Annually</td>
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<td><strong>Number 3</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the major Christian Doctrines</td>
<td>In the “old” religion exit exam six of the seven students had an above 70% accuracy rate and one student had an unacceptable rate (below 50%) on theology questions.</td>
<td>• Religion Major Field Test (In-house)</td>
<td>Each semester</td>
<td>• Religion Major Field Test (In-house)</td>
<td>Each semester</td>
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<td><strong>Number 4</strong></td>
<td>Develop a working knowledge of the major faith traditions</td>
<td>All Religion majors demonstrated an acceptable level of performance in this learning goal. Over 90% knew the five Pillars of Islam and over 85% were able to identify the major beliefs of Hinduism and Buddhism as demonstrated by the “old” Religion exit exam. Those numbers remained consistent in the Final exams in Rel 233 and Rel 234 for Religion majors.</td>
<td>• Final Exams in Rel 233; Rel 234; Rel 221 and Rel 222</td>
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<td>• Final Exams in Rel 233; Rel 234; Rel 221 and Rel 222</td>
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Goal Number 5

Demonstrate an ability to recognize and put together an ethical Christian argument

Report Comments

Goal Measures Combined

• Final Exams in Rel 350

Frequency