



***DOROTHY F. SCHMIDT COLLEGE OF ARTS & LETTERS***

**Student Learning Outcomes Assessment**

**CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Declarative Knowledge):** Students will understand be able to use basic philosophical concepts and vocabulary. Students will demonstrate an understanding of various philosophical theories, as well as the philosophical positions of historically important philosophers.

Assessment will be based on comprehensive research papers or bibliographical essays that are written in PHI 4938 (Senior Seminar), the capstone course of the Philosophy curriculum.

**CRITICAL THINKING (Analytical Skills):** Students will be able to apply basic logical principles and principles of logical analysis to philosophical topics. They will be able analyze a philosophical argument for its validity, soundness and inductive strength. They will be able to construct effective counter-arguments to and respond to critical objections against philosophical positions.

Assessment will be based on a series of written essays completed by students in PHI 4938 (Senior Seminar), the capstone course of the Philosophy curriculum.

**COMMUNICATION (Written Communication); CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Research Skills):** Students will be able to do the library research for and write philosophical essays. They will demonstrate that they have mastered the fundamental procedures of philosophical research, such as idea generation, library research skills, and review of philosophical texts. They will be able to write in a style and format that confirms to accepted standards for philosophical writing. Their writing will be grammatically correct, well-organized and properly formatted.

Assessment will be based on final papers written in PHI 4938 (Senior Seminar), the capstone course of the Philosophy curriculum.