



# Annual Assessment Report for Academic Programs

The University Assessment Team advocates for the enhancement of student learning through purposeful, meaningful, and feasible student-outcomes assessment practices. The Assessment Team seeks to collaborate with programs, departments, and units to ensure that effective assessment of student learning occurs across the University. To assist in meeting this goal, the Team requests that you complete this Annual Assessment Report form to document student learning in your program. A PDF version of this completed form will be posted to the Academic Affairs Assessment website. Please note that this Annual Assessment Report form should only be completed after you have an Assessment Plan for Academic Programs forms on file with the University Assessment Team. The plan is completed once and only updated when revisions have been made to components of the plan.

**1. Degree Level and Program Name:** MA Liberal Studies

**2. College/School:** College of Liberal Arts & Education

**3. Assessment Overview** - Briefly share how student learning outcomes assessment is conducted within your program/department (e.g. number of outcomes, examples of assignments used, and frequency of assessment).

Final Projects (MLS 5060) are used to assess program learning outcomes. Under the direction of a faculty mentor, the student produces a substantive, integrative project that takes the form of a research paper or creative project.

**4. Student Learning Outcomes** -Which student learning outcome(s) from the assessment plan filed with the University Assessment Team is/are being reported on in this report? Include the corresponding benchmark(s) for each outcome.

Final Projects measure Learning Outcomes 1-4.

1. To think critically, identifying assessing and constructing arguments.

Benchmark: B on Final Project

2. To write in an organized and clear manner.

Benchmark: B on Final Project

3. To conduct interdisciplinary research.

Benchmark: B on Final Project

4. To understand the social, cultural and humanistic context of the world.

Benchmark: B on Final Project



**5. Institutional Outcomes** - For which institutional outcome(s) do the reported student learning outcome(s) align?

SLO Outcome Alignment	Institutional Outcome
Yes	I. Jesuit & Mercy Values
Yes	II. Diversity & Cultural Awareness
Yes	III. Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
Yes	IV. Communication
Yes	V. Professionalism
Yes	VI. Lifelong Learning

**6. Assessment Period:** Select the academic year for which you are reporting results (i.e. when data were collected):

2022-2023

**7. Results, Planned Actions, and/or Actions Taken** -Briefly summarize the assessment results, how they relate to benchmark(s), and how you are using them to enhance student learning and improve program quality.

During the 2022-23 academic year, two MALS students completed Final Projects with grades A and A- thus satisfying benchmark criteria for all four learning outcomes.

The MALS Director is using the reported outcomes to consider and implement course improvements and changes to the MALS program in consultation with the Associate Dean of CLAE. The ADCLAE and the MALS program director are working with an advisory committee to consider additional course concentrations and curriculum improvements.

**Attachment(s):**

None