Religious Studies Learning Outcomes for Evaluation of the Major and Minor tracks, created Spring 2014

1. Outcome: Students will be able to describe religious traditions within their historical and cultural contexts.
   a. Implies knowledge of important timelines and personages
   b. Implies knowledge of historical development of a tradition
   c. Implies knowledge of the cultural, social, political milieu of religious traditions.

2. Outcome: Students will be able to demonstrate the critical skills required for reading, evaluating and interpreting religious texts and statements.
   a. Implies the application of methods and knowledge of texts
   b. Implies information literacy

3. Outcome: Students will be able to critique and discuss the application of religious texts and statements as they relate to contemporary issues.
   a. Implies written and oral communication skills
   b. Implies being able to construct an argument or thesis
   c. Implies being able to analyze the effect of religious texts

Assessment Methods

1) Writing Portfolios:
   - Each school year, students will submit 2 papers or projects (2 minimum, 4 maximum) from Religious Studies courses along with a reflection statement explaining their selections.
   - These will be collected through Blackboard in a course titled “Religious Studies Portfolio.”
   - Advisors will review the uploaded work annually, write a summary of their findings, and forward their notes to the Chair.
   - The Chair will synthesize the information, relating it to at least one of the above SLOs. This information will also be summarized as a paragraph for the assessment section of the annual report. The Chair along with the advisors will discuss the work annually at minimum and look for trends to inform the success or need for further improvement of the tracks.

2) Exit Interviews will be solicited from graduating seniors -- results will be reviewed by department for assessment data