

Assessment Map for Master of Divinity

Terms Assessed: Spring 2021-Fall 2023

Jury Members: Drs. Bo Rice, Craig Garrett, Adam Harwood, Charlie Ray, Ted Williams, Preston Nix, and Michael Wang

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Student Learning Outcome #1: Students will demonstrate their understanding and ability to interpret and communicate accurately biblical, theological, and historical truth.

Alignment to Mission Statement/Strategic Plan: Proclamation (“proclaim His truth”)

Alignment to ATS/NASM/CACREP Goals: Foster students’ knowledge of religious heritage (“religious heritage, including understanding of scripture, the theological traditions and history of the school’s faith community, and the broader heritage of other relevant religious traditions”)

Measures (means of program assessment)	Criteria for Success (benchmark set last cycle)	Results (report, summarize, reflect)—disaggregate by location and semester	Use of Results (make action plan to reach criteria, set new criteria if needed, AND discuss success of previous cycle’s action plans)
<i>Direct Measures (at least one)</i> <i><u>Embedded Assignments</u></i> 1. New Testament Interpretation I: Using the method taught in the course, students will write a 2,000-word exegesis paper (not counting bibliography) demonstrating their own exegesis of a particular passage in the Gospels. (0-4 rubric)	3.2 of 4.0	Benchmark <u>Not Met</u> OVERALL: 2.84 Spring 2021: 3.02 Fall 2021: 3.02 Spring 2022: 2.9 NOLA: 3.19 Online: 2.72 Summer 2022: 2.96 NOLA: 3.67 Online: 2.53 Fall 2022: 2.52	New Testament I 1. The Divisional Associate Dean for Biblical Studies will create a video for the online Canvas course providing instructions and details for accessing resources from the NOBTS Library. 2. The Divisional Associate Dean for Biblical Studies will discuss with the division to

2. Systematic Theology I: Theological Writing Assignment using a 5-point rubric (0-4) Indirect Measures (at least one) ATS Graduating Student Questionnaire: Q18b, f, q, r*	3.3 of 4.0 Benchmark not yet set	NOLA: 3.44 Online: 2.31 Spring 2023: 2.35 NOLA: 3 Online: 2.17 Summer 2023: 3.11 Online: 3.11 Fall 2023: 2.87 NOLA: 3.13 Extension Centers: 3.33 Weekend Hybrid: 2.6 Benchmark <u>NOT Met</u> OVERALL: 3.22 Spring 2021: 3.48 Fall 2021: 3.48 Spring 2022: 3.17 NOLA: 3.17 Fall 2022: 3.12 NOLA: 3.42 Online: 2.83 Spring 2023: 3.3 NOLA: 3.05 Hybrid: 3.89 Fall 2023: 2.79 NOLA: 2.68 Extension Center: 2.9 Online: 2.8 OVERALL: 4.67 of 5.0 18b: 4.77	evaluate the online Canvas course and assignments to find ways to further equip online students. 3. A new benchmark set at 3.0 out of 4.0. Systematic Theology I: 1. Based on the fall 2023 semester, students are showing a major deficiency in properly citing sources. The Divisional Associate Dean for Theology and History will communicate to the division this deficiency and highlight the need. The professors of this course will make clear this requirement to students through the course syllabus and class discussions. 2. The Divisional Associate Dean for Theology and History will ensure the template syllabus is properly distributed to all sections and locations where the course is being taught each semester. 3. A new benchmark set at 2.85 out of 4.0.
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		S22 (15): 4.6 F22 (38): 4.86 S23 (27): 4.7 F23 (27): 4.93 18f: 4.59 S22 (15): 4.5 F22 (38): 4.68 S23 (27): 4.6 F23 (27): 4.58 18q: 4.63 S22 (15): 4.45 F22 (38): 4.78 S23 (27): 4.5 F23 (27): 4.73 18r: 4.7 S22 (15): 4.4 F22 (38): 4.87 S23 (27): 4.7 F23 (27): 4.81 Reflection on Results: 1. The New Testament assignment was adjusted in Fall 2022. The results before this were from a similar assignment in a course that no longer exists. 2. The online scores for the NT1 assignment are typically lower due to the higher volume of students who take the course online.	ATS GSQ 1. A benchmark has been set at 4.67 out of 5.0.
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		3. Online students in NT1 score lower in the use of a variety of resources. 4. The online scores for the NT1 assignment are in steady decline. 5. The big drop in scores for the Systematic Theology scores in fall 2023 is due to an assignment and rubric change in the summer of 2023. The assignment is more complex and the rubric is stricter. 6. In the fall of 2023, the extension center used the previous assignment. 7. The ATS GSQ had a lower response rate in the Spring of 2022 because the school adopted the survey after graduation. In the other semesters, students took the survey before graduation.	
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*18b: Ability to use and interpret Scripture

*18f: Knowledge of church doctrine and history

*18q: Knowledge of Christian ethics

*18r: Ability to think theologically

Student Learning Outcome #2: Students will demonstrate an understanding of cultural contexts by displaying relevant ministry skills.

Alignment to Mission Statement/Strategic Plan: Mission (“fulfill His mission”)

Alignment to ATS/NASM/CACREP Goals: Foster understanding of cultural context (“cultural context, including attention to cultural and social issues, to global awareness and engagement, and to the multifaith and multicultural nature of the societies in which students may serve”)

Measures (means of program assessment)	Criteria for Success (benchmark set last cycle)	Results (report, summarize, reflect)—disaggregate by location and semester	Use of Results (make action plan to reach criteria, set new criteria if needed, AND discuss success of previous cycle’s action plans)
<i>Direct Measures (at least one)</i> <u><i>Embedded Assignments</i></u> 1. Counseling in Ministry: Cross-cultural dialog and report (0-4 rubric)	Benchmark not yet set	OVERALL: 88.18 of 100 Fall 2022: 85.7 Fall 2023: 89.43 NOLA: 83.8 Online: 95.05	Counseling in Ministry 1. The Counseling in Ministry course is being moved from the Counseling Division to the Church Ministry Division. The Divisional Associate Dean for Church Ministry will set one assessor for the assignment and create an assessment rubric. 2. A benchmark has been set at 3.0 out of 4.0.
2. Christian Missions: Cross-Cultural Witnessing Report (0-4 rubric)	Benchmark not yet set	No Data: This is a new assignment to be implemented beginning Fall 2024	
<i>Indirect Measures (at least one)</i> ATS Graduating Student Questionnaire: Q18, k, n, o*	Benchmark not yet set	OVERALL: 4.25 of 5.0 18k: 4.23 S22 (15): 4.3 F22 (38): 4.43	Christian Missions 1. Add the Christian Missions assignment to the course. The Missions professor will ensure this assignment is added to all syllabi, labeling it an embedded assignment.

		S23 (27): 4 F23 (27): 4.2 18n: 4.33 S22 (15): 4.1 F22 (38): 4.43 S23 (27): 4.3 F23 (27): 4.5 18o: 4.2 S22 (15): 3.9 F22 (38): 4.37 S23 (27): 4.2 F23 (27): 4.31 Reflection on Results: 1. The counseling in ministry assignment was created for Fall 2022. The course was scheduled to be taught in Spring 2023, but the courses were canceled due to low enrollment. 2. The differences in the Counseling in Ministry scores are because an adjunct professor graded the assignment and not the typical professor teaching the course.	2. A benchmark has been set at 3.0 out of 4.0. ATS GSQ 1. A benchmark has been set at 4.25 out of 5.0.
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*18k: Ability to interact effectively with those from cultural and racial/ethnic contexts other than my own.

*18n: Ability to relate social issues to faith

*18o: Ability in pastoral counseling

Student Learning Outcome #3: Students will demonstrate spiritual and moral maturity through their studies and relational experiences in the program.

Alignment to Mission Statement/Strategic Plan: Servanthood (“NOBTS and Leavell College prepares servants:); Devotion (“walk with Christ”)

Alignment to ATS/NASM/CACREP Goals: Foster personal and spiritual formation (“personal and spiritual formation, including development in personal faith, professional ethics, emotional maturity, moral integrity, and spirituality”)

Measures (means of program assessment)	Criteria for Success (benchmark set last cycle)	Results (report, summarize, reflect)—disaggregate by location and semester	Use of Results (make action plan to reach criteria, set new criteria if needed, AND discuss success of previous cycle’s action plans)
<i>Direct Measures (at least one)</i> <i>Embedded Assignments</i> 1. Introduction to Christian Ethics: Write a letter of Christian counsel addressing an ethical issue: Write a letter to a young believer (spiritual age, not necessarily physical age) who is struggling with how to relate to a friend who practices homosexuality or has strong same-sex attractions. The friend makes statements like, “I believe Jesus is real and he died for me and all that, but I don’t understand how he could make it a sin for me to be a homosexual when I honestly can’t help it.” (0-4 Rubric)	3.3 of 4.0	Benchmark <u>NOT Met</u> OVERALL: 3.20 Spring 2021: 3.48 Fall 2021: 3.48 Spring 2022: 3.17 NOLA: 3.17 Fall 2022: 3.12 NOLA: 3.42 Online: 2.83 Spring 2023: 2.87 Online: 2.87 Fall 2023: 3.1 Online: 3.1	Christian Ethics 1. The Division will assess the online course shell and remake the video that was made from the last jury. 2. The benchmark will remain the same as the jury believes improving the online course shell for Christian Ethics will improve the online scores.
2. Discipleship and Spiritual Formation	Benchmark not yet set	OVERALL: 8.31 Fall 2022: 8.59 NOLA: 8.56	Discipleship and Spiritual Formation 1. The professor responsible for this assignment will create

Personal Discipleship Map (0-10 rubric): Each student will create a creative and visual personal discipleship map that depicts spiritual formation and relationships. The map should include a biblical foundation for spiritual formation, personal spiritual disciplines/devotional practices, and engagement in relationships through mentoring and groups. Indirect Measures (at least one) ATS Graduating Student Questionnaire: Q17, k,o; Q23e*		Online: 8.61 Spring 2023: 7.97 Online: 7.97 Summer 2023: 6.86 Online: 6.86 Fall 2023: 9.53 Hybrid: 9.53	a video explaining the assignment for all course locations. 2. A benchmark has been set at 8.5 out of 10.
	Benchmark not yet set	OVERALL: 4.52 of 5.0 17k: 4.53 S22 (15): 4.3 F22 (38): 4.59 S23 (27): 4.5 F23 (27): 4.74 17o: 4.39 S22 (15): 4.1 F22 (38): 4.54 S23 (27): 4.3 F23 (27): 4.63 23e: 4.65 S22 (15): 4.5 F22 (38): 4.76 S23 (27): 4.6 F23 (27): 4.73	ATS GSQ 1. A benchmark has been set at 4.52 out of 5.0.
Graduate Ministry Survey: 24**	Benchmark not yet set	OVERALL: 4.7 of 5.0 Fall 2022: 4.8 Spring 2023: 4.6 Fall 2023: 4.7	GMS 1. A benchmark has been set at 4.7 out of 5.0

		Reflection on Results: 1. The ethics assignment is trending downward. The rise in scores for fall 2023 is due to a different assessor because the regular assessor was on Sabbatical leave. 2. The online scores for the ethics assignment are lower than the NOLA scores. 3. The Discipleship and Spiritual Formation had lower scores in the Spring and Summer of 2023 because the professor was on Sabbatical leave.	
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*17k: Ability to live my faith in daily life

*17o: Strength of spiritual life

*23e: I have grown spiritually

**GMS 24: The seminary equips me as a servant to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Student Learning Outcome #4: Students will demonstrate skills in ministry and public leadership.

Alignment to Mission Statement/Strategic Plan: Mission (“fulfill His mission”)

Alignment to ATS/NASM/CACREP Goals: Foster capacity for religious and public leadership, (religious and public leadership, including cultivating capacities for leading in ecclesial or denominational and public contexts and reflecting on leadership practices):

Measures (means of program assessment)	Criteria for Success (benchmark set last cycle)	Results (report, summarize, reflect)—disaggregate by location and semester	Use of Results (make action plan to reach criteria, set new criteria if needed, AND discuss success of previous cycle’s action plans)
<i>Direct Measures (at least one)</i> Embedded Assignments 1. Preaching Practicum (0-4 point assessment rubric of student preaching a message)	3.25 of 4.0	Benchmark Met OVERALL: 3.48 of 4.0 Spring 2021: 3.55 Fall 2021: 3.33 Fall 2022: No data Spring 2023: 3.53 KTI: 3.34 NOLA: 3.73 Fall 2023: 3.5 KTI: 3.5	Preaching Practicum 1. The Divisional Associate Dean will ensure the collection and assessment of the assignment. The Divisional Associate Dean for Church Ministry will remind the professor assigned to collect the measure to collect and assess the assignment each semester. 2. A new benchmark set at 3.5 out of 4.0.
2. Teaching Practicum – Understanding, Application, and Communication Domains	3.5 of 4.0	Benchmark Met OVERALL: 3.8 of 4.0 Spring 2022: 3.86 (NOLA) Understanding: 3.6 Application: 4 Communication: 4 Summer 2022: 3.83 (Mentor) Understanding: 3.5 Application: 4	Teaching Practicum 1. The division will evaluate the mentor course shell to see where improvements can be made.

Indirect Measures (at least one) ATS Graduating Student Questionnaire: Q18 a,e, g* NOBTS Graduation Ministry Survey #10**	Benchmark not yet set 75% at 4.0 with the previous scale. Benchmark not yet set with new scale for the question.	Communication: 4 Fall 2022: 3.67 (Mentor) Understanding: 3.4 Application: 3.6 Communication: 4 Fall 2023: 3.86 (Mentor) Understanding: 3.57 Application: 4 Communication: 4 OVERALL: 4.53 of 5.0 18a: 4.52 S22 (15): 4.1 F22 (38): 4.69 S23 (27): 4.5 F23 (27): 4.78 18e: 4.62 S22 (15): 4.5 F22 (38): 4.74 S23 (27): 4.6 F23 (27): 4.65 18g: 4.45 S22 (15): 4.3 F22 (38): 4.5 S23 (27): 4.4 F23 (27): 4.58 OVERALL: 3.73 of 4.0 (Spring 21-22) OVERALL: 4.63 of 5.0 (Fall 22-23)	2. The main professor will create a video explanation of the assignment for all course delivery methods. 3. A new benchmark set at 3.8 out of 4.0. ATS GSQ 1. A benchmark has been set at 4.53 out of 5.0 GMS 1. A benchmark has been set at 4.63 out of 5.0
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		Spring 2021: 3.7 Fall 2021: 3.8 Spring 2022: 3.7 Fall 2022: 4.7 Spring 2023: 4.6 Fall 2023: 4.6 Reflection on Results: 1. The preaching practicum measure has gaps in the data. 2. The Graduation Ministry Survey used to be determined by how many people scored the question at its highest score. However, to be consistent with the way other measures are measured, the jury decided to report the overall score for all student responses. 3. While the question did not change in the fall of 2022, the scores changed from having four as the highest number to now five as the highest score.	
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*18a: Ability to preach well

*18e: Ability to teach well

*18g: Ability to lead others

**GMS 10: To what degree has your training at NOBTS enhanced your knowledge and skills for ministry?

Executive Summary:

The Masters of Divinity is the flagship degree of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. This degree prepares students to serve in ministry at the local church and other ministry settings. In the fall of 2022, this degree received a major revision. In the Spring of

2023, the Provost, Graduate Dean, and Divisional Associate Deans met and revised the assessment measures. This assessment jury has revealed the online offerings of these courses are not up to the standard we expect our students to meet. Therefore, significant attention will be given to the online course shells by each of the divisions to improve the student's ability to achieve the student learning outcomes. We look forward to our new measures, mixed with our long-standing measures to provide us with trend data as they mature over time.