

Philosophy Program Assessment
2017-2018
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1. During the spring semester of 2018, I significantly restructured the Philosophy Major and other aspects of the Philosophy program at Wells. Three new courses were added and several were retired as well. In addition, I reviewed and revised course descriptions for every course in the program. These changes occurred as the result of years of assessment of Philosophy at Wells. They constitute, in my view, the most important and most strategic forms of program assessment this year for the Philosophy program.
2. Since the Philosophy program has been extensively revised, the vision and objectives of the program have evolved. Last year's program goals, therefore, have been eclipsed by the more substantive transformations in the program.
3. In 2017's plan, the three major goals outlined included:
 - a. Every graduate will have established basic proficiency in logic and critical thinking.
 - b. Every graduate will have studied and written about topics related to ethics and practiced rational dialogue with other views in assignments.
 - c. Every graduate will be competent in a basic way in issues related to mind and psychology.

In regard to these specific goals, they were reached in regard to our 2018 graduate, Chandler Smith. Jake Smith actually is coming back to Wells in the fall of 2018 to complete his course requirements in logic and psychology. Since he's completed all other coursework, including his thesis, his case illustrates how basic these goals are to the program: if you don't achieve them, you will not graduate.

We will retain these goals going forward, even as they are absorbed in the changes to the program.