

Program Assessment Plan  
 American University  
 Academic Program: CAS: Philosophy - MA

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**Contact Person for Amy Oliver**

**Assessment:**

**Unit Website Address:** <http://www.american.edu/cas/philrel/MA-PHIL.cfm>

**Unit's Primary Department:** Philosophy/Religion

**Learning Outcome: Critical engagement**

Students will be able to engage critically with philosophical texts and situate them in the context of the history of philosophy.

**Outcome Year:** 2010-2011

**Outcome Status:** Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
Direct: Evaluation by pairs of department faculty of successive drafts of MA qualifying papers. Indirect: faculty meeting devoted to assessment of the qualifying papers <b>Measure Type:</b> Other	All students will improve their projects. Most will pass each qualifying paper.	Every year	Yes
Direct: Meetings of qualifying paper committees; two professors with each student. Indirect: faculty meeting devoted to assessment. <b>Measure Type:</b> Other	All students who pass will converse with faculty on their qualifying paper committee to analyze their work and defend their ideas.	Every year	Yes

**Learning Outcome: Sustain point**

Students will be able to support and sustain a central philosophical point throughout each of their required qualifying papers.

**Outcome Year:** 2010-2011

**Outcome Status:** Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
Direct: Evaluation by pairs of department faculty of successive drafts of MA qualifying papers. Indirect: faculty meeting devoted to assessment of the qualifying papers <b>Measure Type:</b> Other	All students will improve their projects. Most will pass each qualifying paper.	Every year	Yes
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**Learning Outcome: Oral defense**

Students will be able to defend orally the ideas in their qualifying papers.

**Outcome Year:** 2010-2011

**Outcome Status:** Active Learning Outcome

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