

Assessment Activities
Program: Master of Arts in Ministry

<i>Graduate School Goals (Purpose)</i>	<i>Program Outcomes</i>	<i>Assessment Procedures and Criteria</i>	<i>Assessment Results</i>	<i>Use of Assessment Results/Change</i>
1. Graduates will demonstrate the disciplinary competence and/or professional proficiency with a global perspective in service to others.	Students will analyze and apply the Catholic, Christian approach to revelation as embodied in Scripture and Tradition and communicate it as professional ministers in ecclesial communities	Graded discussion boards Monitored exams, Short data-driven quizzes. Personal journals or attitude logs In person discussions of case studies, Internship course with specialized mentoring and assessment, Grading of final Capstone paper or project Assessment by students of the first program was both by anonymous questionnaire and by focus groups facilitated by the Dean's office, In the On-line program a focus group was conducted in the second summer by the Director of another program.	Students who cannot demonstrate disciplinary competence either in theology or ministry are dismissed from the program based on the Graduate School's level of <u>criteria</u> . Students struggling with the technology are given special help during the summers and by phone or email during the <u>year</u> . Suggestions for improving course delivery are taken very seriously and changes have been made in method and faculty	We need external assessment commentary by employers of our graduates. This has not yet been solicited or analyzed but will be this coming year.
2. Graduates will demonstrate an ability to combine critical thinking, disciplined research, and effective problem-solving in their field of study.	They will be able to distinguish among, and synthesize, the core concepts of the specialties of Fundamental, Systematic, Liturgical, Moral, and Spiritual theologies, and be prepared to make pastoral application	Case study analysis Team projects toward problem resolution Integrating essays both short and long	Students generally improve from course to course in the <u>overall skills and knowledge</u> . Oral assessment by students in the summer with the director have led to new ways of communicating team skills and expectations	New courses as part of certificates will expand student's options for some courses that may not meet denominational needs
3. Graduates will demonstrate ethical decision making, service, and civic responsibility in accordance with the Judeo-Christian tradition and Ignatian values.	Students will manifest core Gospel values of mercy, justice, integrity and compassion. They will model the spirit of discipleship of Jesus Christ identified in the new Testament	Case study response Problem resolution Journals and/or blogs Personal interviews with teachers and program director Internships with people of need, Final integration project	As with other skills that are regularly assessed, the assessment by faculty of the students has led to either coaching or dismissal depending on the severity of lack demonstrated in the case study analyses, problem resolutions etc. Rubrics are generally accessible.	
4. Graduates will respectfully and effectively communicate information through all modes of expression.	Students will practice the necessary skills of planning, communication, decision – making and conflict resolution for leadership and team collaboration in contemporary ecclesial structures	Blogs and journals Internship mentoring and reporting with colleagues Short integration papers Power point presentations	Every mode of communication made available to us for distance learning has been used by one or another faculty member – challenging the students to demonstrate their abilities to communicate in written, oral and electronic formats.	Courses in other programs that would meet the needs of Non-Catholic ministry students for courses in specific denominational polity are being explored. Should competent courses not be discovered a course will be developed as the non-Catholic student population

				increases.
5. Graduates will demonstrate deliberative reflection for lifelong personal and professional formation.	Students will practice balancing ministerial demands with personal and familial commitments	Program mentor relationship Spiritual Direction & Retreat Requirement, Personal annual interviews with director		
6. Graduates will demonstrate an ability to work effectively and in solidarity across the distinctions of human diversity.	They will verify by their relationship with the Church that the Christian ministerial call comes from the needs of the ecclesial community and is practiced within the diverse cultural contexts of its members	Discussion Board interaction Team projects Internship in a diverse-culture ministry situation Retreat Synthesis paper or project	Some students intern in Clinical Pastoral Education Programs that provide a detailed assessment of students' abilities to work among diverse populations. These are being collated over a five year period.	A questionnaire for employers of graduates of both the oncampus and online programs is being developed to ascertain how well the graduates are able to fulfill the demands of their positions.

Submitted by Eileen C. Burke-Sullivan, S.T.D., Program Director