

## **Philosophy Major Checklist for the Department Assessment Plan:**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of major assessment is to increase students' consciousness of their own learning patterns, to track the progress of our majors, to analyze the strengths and weaknesses of their work, and to set departmental goals for the future. The Philosophy faculty will use assessment as an instrument for a rigorous evaluation of curriculum, courses, instruction, and methods in relation to the needs of students, while in the program and following their graduation. Moreover, the results of the assessment can lead to the revision and fortification of the academic program for future students. The process will be repeated each year, beginning in the Fall 2010 with all new majors and 2009-2010 freshmen students. The papers mentioned below will *not* be used for the purposes of any course grade.

### **Checklist:**

**A. Entry Level:** Upon declaring Philosophy as his/her major or soon thereafter, the student will

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Take PHIL 205 (Introduction to Logic) or PHIL 305 (Symbolic Logic).
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Submit a paper from a lower-level class for evaluation by the faculty. (It should be a short paper or term paper (preferably unmarked) chosen by the student, written as a course assignment during his/her first year as a philosophy major.)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Be given a summary/checklist of the assessment plan. The checklist and the entire document will be linked to our website.

**B. Exit Level:** During his/her final year as Philosophy major, the following materials will be added to the portfolio:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ One term paper chosen by the student, written as a course assignment during his/her final year taken from a philosophy course.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ The Department will send an exit questionnaire to the student shortly before graduation. If filled out and returned, the questionnaire will be maintained in a separate file by the Administrative Assistant.