

Assessment Grant Proposal Form

Assessing student learning is an essential component of general education and in the major. This grant supports innovative practices in the assessment of student learning. The Assessment Grants are intended for faculty in their efforts to support and assess student learning in public affairs and general education.

Assessment Grant applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis throughout the Spring 2018 semester. For more information, contact Julia Cottrell via email at JuliaCottrell@MissouriState.edu.

Please fill out the form below which will become your grant proposal and click "submit" at the bottom of the page.

1. First and Last Name:

Stephen Berkwitz

2. Email Address:

scb2468@missouristate.edu

3. Campus Phone:

#6-4147

4. Campus Location/Address:

Strong 255

5. College:

College of Humanities & Public Affairs

6. Please list the department and program to which you belong.

Religious Studies

7. Have you received written approval from your department head or dean?

Yes

8. Will your program, department, or college support this project in any way? This is not a requirement, but "matching" makes dollars stretch farther and the request may help a broader audience understand and support your work.

Yes

9. Provide the budget (FOAP) number to which funds should be transferred should the proposal be approved.

10. What is the title of your proposal?

Program Assessment through a Student Advisory Committee

11. Please select from the eligible projects listed below. If "other", please contact an Assessment staff member for approval.

Support focus groups with students or alumni to ask questions related to program learning outcomes

12. What do you plan to purchase or pay for? Please specify what line items will be funded through the assessment grant and what line items will be funded through other sources.

6 x \$50 MSU Bookstore Gift Cards for student advisory committee members (funded through assessment grant)

Refreshments to be served at meetings (funded through department)

Department of Religious Studies T-shirts for student advisory committee members (funded through department)

13. What contributions will this work have on enhancing student learning? Briefly describe the learning, writing, or thinking need that you intend to address with this grant.

Religious Studies faculty frequently find ourselves speculating about what our students think about our classes and our programs. However, oftentimes these ideas are based on little more than our own assumptions and hypotheses. I intend to form a Student Advisory Committee that

will meet in person and also offer advice by email on a wide range of issues related to student learning and how the Department of Religious Studies interacts with its majors and minors. Feedback obtained from a six-person Student Advisory Committee comprising current majors and minors will add to the assessment information we collect from graduating majors, and it will enable the department to be more responsive to student opinions and preferences related to course design, program requirements, and curricular offerings.

14. What is your time frame for the proposed project?

Academic Year 2018-2019. If successful, I will form a new Student Advisory Committee again in Fall 2019.

15. How will the results of this project be used for program improvement? Please describe any anticipated outcomes.

Information obtained from the Student Advisory Committee will be considered and utilized where possible in the Department of Religious Studies decision-making processes related to program requirements and curriculum.

16. If funded, a short, written report is expected. The interim report will include the following information: Minutes of meetings (include attendees, date, items discussed, actions), project results, outcomes addressed, changes that will occur in the future due to this project, new learning, new curriculum, recommendations for future projects, and any handouts, student work, survey results, etc.

I agree to write a brief report before May 15, 2019.

17. Do you agree to share the funded project at the time of its completion? This may include sharing the proposal itself, outcome data from the grant's effect, or student work generated from use of the grant.

Yes

18. How do you plan to show evidence of student learning?

I will ask the members of the Student Advisory Committee to provide me with a 1-2 page written self-assessment on what they learned from participating in this committee at the end of the academic year. Directions for this self-assessment will encourage students to reflect upon what skills and insights they may have obtained as members of the committee.

