

4.b. Graduates demonstrate an understanding of theological methods and principles. (MDIV).

Assessment Review

MD₁: STB Results 2019-20 to
2022-23

Introduction



- The STB Assessment Rubric (Tool MD1) is a threshold tool used in the final semester of the MDIV degree program to assess the goals of the program.
- This tool addresses MDIV Outcome 1: *Teaches the faith accurately and effectively*. Evidence: *Understands theological methods and principles*.
- The current results for review are combined totals (47 total assessments) from a 4-year period (2019-20 through 2022-23).



MD1 Assessment Rubric

Last revised April 2020

	Excellent	Good	Sufficient	Poor	Unacceptable
Sacred Scripture	Student's response shows thorough grasp and insight into meaning of biblical texts; thorough knowledge of Scripture and an understanding of biblical exegesis.	Student's response shows grasp and insight into meaning of biblical texts; knowledge of Scripture and an understanding of biblical exegesis.	Student's response demonstrates a basic grasp of the meaning of biblical texts. Student has basic knowledge of Scripture and biblical exegesis.	Student's response shows minimal understanding of biblical texts, and little knowledge of Scripture or biblical exegesis.	Student's response shows no understanding of biblical texts or knowledge of Scripture or biblical exegesis.
Dogma	Manifests a thorough and accurate comprehension of the dogma or doctrinal issue considered, including pertinent foundations and developments in Scripture, the Fathers, theological writings and Magisterial pronouncements; able to discuss the dogma or issue with cogent theological awareness of questions open to further development and/or speculation.	Manifests a clear and accurate comprehension of the dogma or doctrinal issue consistent with Magisterial teaching; able to distinguish the Catholic understanding from heretical or inadequate viewpoints; able to provide some sound theological analysis and support from Scripture, the Fathers, approved Catholic authors and the Magisterium.	Manifests basic comprehension of the dogma or doctrinal issue that is consistent with Catholic creeds and catechetical sources; able to distinguish the Catholic understanding from heretical or erroneous perspectives; able to provide some rudimentary support for Catholic doctrine from Scripture, the Fathers, approval Catholic authors and/or the Magisterium (though gaps in knowledge are evident).	Manifests minimal comprehension of the dogma or doctrinal issue that is consistent with Catholic creeds and catechetical sources; not always able to distinguish the Catholic understanding from heretical or erroneous perspectives; able to provide only minimal support for Catholic doctrine from Scripture, the Fathers, approval Catholic authors and/or the Magisterium. A number of gaps in knowledge are evident.	Fails to describe a Catholic dogma or doctrine accurately; manifests a failure to provide any support for a Catholic dogma or doctrine from Scripture, the Fathers, approved Catholic authors and/or the Magisterium; manifests support for a theological position or conclusion that is clearly inconsistent with Catholic Magisterial teaching.
Moral	All of the relevant moral norms and principles of Church teaching and their practical application (if needed) are included in a coherent and cogent answer/response. Student shows excellent knowledge of scholarly opinion.	All of the relevant moral norms and principles of Church teaching and their practical application (if needed) are included in a coherent and cogent answer/response. Student shows some knowledge of scholarly opinion.	The student treats most of the relevant moral norms and principles. The student shows some ability to apply the norms and principles to ethical issues.	The student shows some rudimentary knowledge of the moral norms and principles.	The student shows no knowledge of moral norms and principles.


Previous Data Review, March 2017

- Note: because the rubric was revised, data prior to 2019-20 was evaluated on a different scale. (Previous scale: 3=exemplary, 2=good, 1=barely adequate, 0=inadequate; current scale: 4=excellent, 3=good, 2=sufficient, 1=poor, 0=inadequate)
- Previous review in March 2017 noted that Sacred Scripture had a higher mean (2.15/3) than dogma (1.88/3) and moral (1.77/3), as well as a higher percentage of students scoring exemplary (30.8% versus 19.2% for both dogmatic and moral theology.)
- In previous long-range data, 3.7% (3 of 82 students) scored inadequate in Sacred Scripture, 4.9% (4 of 82 students) in dogmatic theology, and 7.3% (6 of 82 students) in moral theology.



Actions Taken After Previous Review

- Post exam STB survey conducted in April 2019 & April 2020 for student feedback on exam process
- STB Exam rubric updated after feedback from faculty examiners
- Made improvements to STB seminar based on instructor and student feedback



MD1 Results 2019-2020 to 2022-23

- 47 Total Administrations
- 2019-20 through 2022-23

4=Excellent
3=Good
2=Sufficient
1=Poor
0=Unacceptable

Mean

- Scripture 2.87 / .85 SD
- Dogma 2.79 / .75 SD
- Moral 2.81 / .77 SD

Median

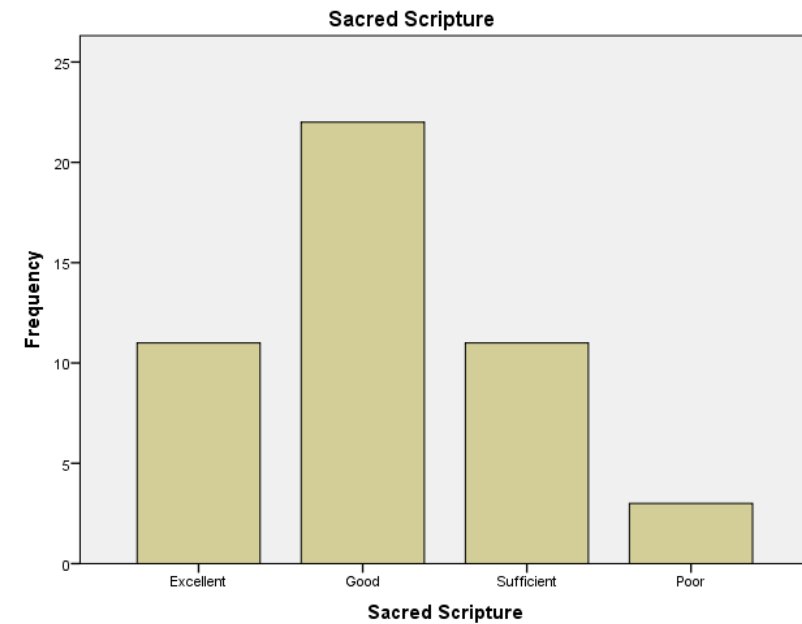
- Scripture 3
- Dogma 3
- Moral 3

Mode

- Scripture 3
- Dogma 3
- Moral 3

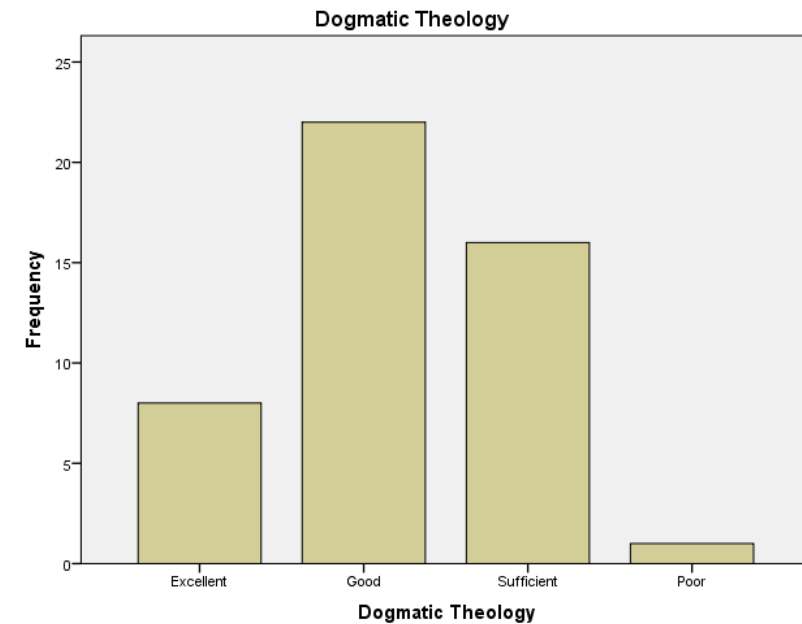
Sacred Scripture

	Frequency	Percent
Excellent	11	23.4
Good	22	46.8
Sufficient	11	23.4
Poor	3	6.4
Unacceptable	0	0
Total	47	100.0



Dogmatic Theology

	Frequency	Percent
Excellent	8	17.0
Good	22	46.8
Sufficient	16	34.0
Poor	1	2.1
Unacceptable	0	0
Total	47	100.0



Moral Theology

	Frequency	Percent
Excellent	9	19.1
Good	21	44.7
Sufficient	16	34.0
Poor	1	2.1
Unacceptable	0	0
Total	47	100.0

