Prompted by the core renewal process currently underway at Boston College, the Theology Department took this year as an opportunity to revisit and revise the learning outcomes for our core. Previously, our learning outcomes for all core sequences were as follows:

**Theology core courses should enable students to:**

1. Demonstrate the ability to consider issues of religious faith from an intellectual or scholarly perspective.
2. Demonstrate that they have some appreciation of the nature of the theological enterprise as a disciplined reflection on religious faith.
3. Demonstrate that they have reflected on the question about the relationship between reason and religious faith.
4. Demonstrate that they have attained a basic familiarity with and appreciation for at least one faith tradition.

The revised learning outcomes for all core sequences, effective starting Fall 2016, are as follows:

**Theology core courses should enable students to:**

1. Appreciate and constructively engage the universal, perennial quests for truth and meaning that generate theological insight in Christianity and other religious traditions;
2. Demonstrate a working understanding of the fundamental texts and practices that shape Christian theology, especially as expressed in Scripture and the Creeds;
3. Understand and constructively engage the dynamic relationship between religious truth claims and their moral implications, both personal and societal;
4. Constructively engage the various disciplinary methods required for theological insight, including textual, historical, social, and cultural analysis;
5. Be able to relate theological inquiry to the enduring questions animating the broader liberal arts tradition in an academic environment that welcomes diverse backgrounds and perspectives.

**Where are these learning outcomes published? Be specific.** (Where are the department’s expected learning outcomes for its Core courses accessible: on the web, in the catalog, or in your department handouts?)

The learning outcomes for all core sequences are posted on the Theology Department website. Additional learning outcomes specific to each course sequence are printed on course syllabi.
3) **Other than GPA, what data/evidence is used to determine whether students have achieved the stated outcomes for the Core requirement?** (What evidence and analytical approaches do you use to assess which of the student learning outcomes have been achieved more or less well?)

We developed two add-on course evaluation questions this year for the purpose of assessing how successful our core courses are in fulfilling two of our new learning goals. We designed this targeted assessment to show us what we most need to focus on next year as the new learning outcomes are implemented. Those add-on course evaluation questions are as follows:

1. The Core Theology course has helped me understand the fundamental texts and practices that shape Christian theology.
2. This Core Theology course has helped me understand the relationship between religious truth claims and their moral implications, both personal and societal.

4) **Who interprets the evidence? What is the process?** (Who in the department is responsible for interpreting the data and making recommendations for curriculum or assignment changes if appropriate? When does this occur?)

The Department Chair and the Undergraduate Program Director collate and evaluate the data at the end of the academic year. Also, a Core Curriculum Committee was formed this past year to elicit feedback from faculty and devise the new learning outcomes. This committee will meet again at the beginning of the upcoming academic year to discuss and analyze the data.