Introduction:
In the spring term of AY 13-14 the philosophy department, under the coordination of Dr. Vaidya, evaluated how students were performing on SLO 8 of area A3, in the department’s Logic and Critical Reasoning course.

SLO 8: Students should be able to reflect on past successes, failures, and alternative strategies.

Almost all sections of 57 have at least one exam that focuses on informal fallacies. Some instructors allow students to retake the exam after they have taken it once. This allows students to rethink what they have done on their first exam.

Methods and Results:

In AY 13-14 Dr. Vaidya met with several of the instructors to discuss ways in which students could retake portions of their exams in order to learn new strategies for doing certain questions, and taking the next exam. Most instructors found this method of satisfying SLO 8 quite useful.

Plan:

In the future instructors plan to continue using this method.

Part 2

To be completed by the department chair (with input from course coordinator as appropriate):

(4) Are all sections of the course still aligned with the area Goals, Student Learning Objectives (SLOs), Content, Support, and Assessment? If they are not, what actions are planned?

Yes – Peter Hadreas, Department Chair

For the new A3 courses, which as of Fall 2014 have a 6000 word requirement, the number of students that qualifies the class as 'oversized' is significantly less. In A3 classes, the Instructor of record reads drafts and supplies feedback for all major writing assignments. Because of the increased amount of required writing, at the request of the instructor of record and with the permission of the Chair of Philosophy, the instructor may be assigned an Instructional Student Assistant (ISA) who reads drafts and provides feedback for minor writing assignments, but the instructor of note reads, grades and supplies feedback for all final versions of the major writing assignments. Whenever an Instructional Student Assistant (ISA)
aids in the grading of minor written assignments, the instructor of record must explicitly notify the students of the class that the minor writing assignments have been graded by an ISA. The instructor of record then, if so requested by a student, must reread, provide additional feedback, and regrade the minor written assignment, if a grade revision is warranted."