General Education Annual Course Assessment Form

Course Number/Title: Philosophy 9, Mathematics and Logic for General Education

GE Area: B4

Results reported for AY: 2013-2014 # of sections: 2 # of instructors: 2

Course Coordinator: Richard Tieszen E-mail: Richard.Tieszen@sjsu.edu

Department Chair: Peter Hadreas College: Humanities and Arts

Instructions: Each year, the department will prepare a brief (two page maximum) report that documents the assessment of the course during the year. This report will be electronically submitted, by the department chair, to the Office of Undergraduate Studies, with an electronic copy to the home college by September 1 of the following academic year.

Part 1
To be completed by the course coordinator:

(1) What SLO(s) were assessed for the course during the AY?

SLO 2: Mathematical concepts courses should prepare the student to demonstrate the ability to use mathematics to solve real life problems.

(2) What were the results of the assessment of this course? What were the lessons learned from the assessment?

The course surveys the areas of number theory, mathematical logic, algorithms and computability theory, elementary set theory, and geometry. Each of these areas has rich applications to real life problems. The assessment showed that applications to real life problems were covered adequately in the course. Students were given problems in each of the areas on the examinations and problem sets. They were especially enthusiastic about the applications of logic in computer circuit design, in which we read comments by Steve Wozniak about his use of logic circuits at Apple. Students also liked the real life applications of algorithms. Many of the students use computers but know little about the mathematics behind computation, so these sections were well-received. The sections on applications of number theory and set theory were also favorites of the students.
(3) What modifications to the course, or its assessment activities or schedule, are planned for the upcoming year? (If no modifications are planned, the course coordinator should indicate this.)

Concerning this SLO, SLO 2, modification of Philosophy 9 or of its assessment activities does not appear to be required at this point. We will of course continue to monitor Philosophy 9 in the future to determine whether changes are needed.

**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*