Identify the Course Student Learning Outcomes assessed this semester.

1. Identify the myths, histories, doctrines, and practices of the major schools of Buddhism.
2. Identify each school’s understanding of the human condition, ethics, knowledge, death, the afterlife, and conceptions of the divine.
3. Interpret primary sources.
4. Examine the relationship between religion and culture/society.
5. Question and think critically.

How do the above course SLOs align with the Associate of Arts or certificate program-level outcomes?

The above course SLOs align with the Associate of Arts program level outcomes numbers 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, and 10.

What skills or competencies are necessary for the student to perform the selected SLOs?

There are several skills and competencies necessary for the student to perform the SLOs. Students must read the textbook, attend classes, engage in discussion, and participate in group work. They must develop skills in critical thinking, studying, note taking, analysis, synthesis, and writing both informative and argumentative papers. In order to interpret the primary sources they need to have a proficiency in English that corresponds to the ENG 100 level.

What instructional methods or materials are used to prepare the students?

Students read *The Buddhist Handbook* by John Snelling, *Buddha or Bust* by Perry Garfinkel, and a book by the Dalai Lama in order to prepare. I use PowerPoint/KeyNote presentations, discussion questions, videos, and group activities as instructional methods. Group activities include game shows for review before quizzes, debates to develop higher levels of thinking, crossword and word search puzzles for identification of important terms, etc.
What assessment task(s) or tools are being used to assess the outcomes? What are the criteria for success?

I use Embedded Assessment as the form of assessment for this course. I copied the following from my syllabus for the course in order to better answer this question:

- “Take two exams. Exams will be based on material covered in class and the course readings.
  - Exams will be challenging but students are allowed open notes and open books.
  - Exam II is not cumulative.
  - To do your best on each of the exams, it helps to cultivate good listening, studying, and note-taking skills.

- Complete a variety of writing assignments.
  - Satisfactorily complete the research paper. Each student will select a Buddhist topic he/she finds interesting and begin researching it early in the semester. Research papers include submitting drafts, peer reviews, and one conference with the instructor. The research paper should be approximately 8-10 pages double-spaced. Paper writing guidelines and a rubric will be distributed prior to the due date.
  - Satisfactorily complete four shorter papers. The shorter papers do not require drafts, peer reviews, or conferencing. For these essays, students will be provided with the paper topic and should select the format in which he/she would like to write. NOTE: some formats require a 1-2 page reflection paper.

- Complete a variety of in-class activities and a few homework assignments including journal entries, card swaps, webbing, flashcard ‘quiz,’ pair square discussions, popcorn reading, role play, silent Socratic dialogue, toss a ‘test,’ crossword puzzles, word searches, art symbolism identification, game shows, etc.
  - These assignments enhance your analysis, synthesis, and critical thinking skills. They also enable you to reflect on themes in class and comprehend the topics in a more sophisticated manner.
  - Groups will typically consist of 3-4 members, and will usually be randomly assigned. The instructor acknowledges that not all students feel comfortable performing in front of the class. You will not have to participate in all of the activities. For example, role-playing and popcorn reading calls on volunteers and is not a requirement in order to pass the class.
  - For some of these in-class activities you will receive detailed feedback. For other assignments you may only receive a check mark indicating full credit.

Since group assignments require being present for class, you will **not** be able to make-up these assignments, regardless of reason, if class is missed.”

The criteria for success – at least 75% of students pass the assignments because every one of these assignments relate to one or more of the SLOs.
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