

Report: Student Learning Assessment (SLA)

When to submit this report: at the assignment due date for each course

Where to send this report: submit the report to the ABTS Headquarters office

Format: This report should be typewritten or produced on a computer. If you don't have access to this technology, please be certain the handwriting is easy to read. A form for writing your SLA is included with these instructions.

Purpose in your Student Portfolio

This report is built around the program learning objectives listed in the ABTS Catalog and documents how this particular course has helped you to fulfill these objectives. Different courses are designed to fulfill different objectives. Examples: THL540 Systematic Theology I requires that each student write a personal confession of faith. Some ministry courses ask you to write a paper outlining your philosophy of ministry. These assignments demonstrate your ability to "develop personal convictions and philosophies of ministry" and should be listed under Objective #2. Many other courses will not apply to this objective; Objective #2 should then be omitted from your report. If our professors are doing their jobs properly, and you are paying attention, you should have completed an assignment or activity related to each objective several times during your study program.

Instructions for completing the report

Please read carefully through the complete list of program learning objectives, thinking about which learning objectives you fulfilled in this particular course. If you completed an assignment or activity that demonstrated or improved your ability to accomplish the indicated task, **please give specific information about this activity**. Omit any objectives that don't apply to this course; list several activities or assignments under one objective if they apply. Brief descriptions are sufficient.

On the following pages are questions under each objective that will help you think about the meaning and intent of the learning objective. Please review this material carefully. Do not answer the questions under each objective; they are intended only to help you identify appropriate learning activities. If any of the questions apply, include that objective in your report.

Please note:

- We do not want course outlines or discussions of the materials "covered" in the course. We don't want to know what the professor said; we want to know what you did, or how your understanding of the course subject was changed, or what applications you hope to make on the basis of your experience in the course.
- These reports form a part of the Student Portfolio that is required for graduation.
- An SLA **must be submitted** for every course the student completes. **Students are not permitted to enroll in a new course until they have submitted an SLA from their previous course.**

SLA: Questions to help me explore the learning objectives

This student learning assessment or SLA is a tool by which I am able to demonstrate my learning. My insights will also help management in its decisions as it reviews the program periodically. My honest appraisal of my learning will surely help ABTS to serve me and the other students better!

The objectives and guide questions below are designed to meet my target areas:

Objective #1: Appreciate the centrality of the biblical text; demonstrate competence in exegeting, interpreting and applying Scripture in personal and ministry situations.

KEY THEME: SCRIPTURE

Questions to guide my thinking for Objective #1:

1. Did anything in the course discussions or the assignments help me to understand more clearly the importance of the Bible as my only authority for doctrine and practice? Describe the discussion or assignment.
2. In this course, did I receive instruction about using biblical texts as the foundation of a sermon or Bible lesson? Was I required to complete assignments showing that I was able to do this? I will tell what I learned or what I did.
3. Did I complete an assignment asking me to explain the meaning or interpretation of a particular passage of Scripture? Describe the assignment.
4. Did an assignment or activity for this course require me to apply Scripture to my personal life or ministry? Which assignment or activity?

Objective #2: Develop theological convictions and philosophies of ministry; integrate these principles into personal life, cultural milieu, and ministry settings.

KEY THEME: THEOLOGY or PHILOSOPHY

Questions to guide my thinking for Objective #2:

1. In this course, did I receive instruction and was I required to complete assignments integrating theological or philosophical principles into my personal life or ministry? Please explain.
2. Did this course ask me to write a philosophy of some aspect of ministry?
3. Did this course ask me to write a confession of faith?

Objective #3: Synthesize new insights from seminars, reading and analysis into ministry contexts; trace the end results of ministry innovations, either verification of methods applied or analysis of failure and lessons learned.

KEY THEME: MINISTRY

Questions to guide my thinking for Objective #3:

1. Explain clearly the new insight I gained from discussions or reading for this seminar and how I intend to apply the new insight to my ministry context.
2. Give a short description of a ministry situation where I intend to use material from my class notes in my teaching.

Objective #4: Apply critical thinking in reading, writing and discussion; evaluate relevant data and make decisions consistent with the truth of Scripture.

KEY THEME: CRITICAL THINKING

Questions to guide my thinking for Objective #4:

1. In my opinion, did the class discussion provoke me and the other students to think critically? Please give specific examples.
2. Did any of the assignments for this course ask me to think critically about something I read? Which one(s)?
3. Did I think the written assignments required me to evaluate information or ministry situations and/or make decisions for the future? Please tell which assignment(s) and what kind of information.

Objective #5: Evaluate concepts of leadership utilizing effective organizational and group communication skills; network with colleagues who can support one another in the ministry.

KEY THEME: PEOPLE SKILLS

Questions to guide my thinking for Objective #5:

1. Did this course help me explore and evaluate ideas about Christian leadership? In what way was this accomplished?
2. Did assignments or class activities give me an opportunity to develop organizational skills or use group communication skills? Which assignments or activities?
3. Did I get to know colleagues in this class who might be helpful to me in my ministry?
4. Do I feel the professor or class activities helped me to form friendships or ministry networks? Please give examples.

Objective #6: Analyze culture from a distinctly Christian worldview; develop methodologies for and deepen commitments to building Christ's church worldwide.

KEY THEME: THE WORLD

Questions to guide my thinking for Objective #6:

1. In this course, did I spend time in class discussions analyzing culture from a Christian perspective? Was I required to complete a written assignment or oral presentation displaying my own analysis?
2. Was I required to write a statement of my worldview, or to analyze the worldviews of others?
3. Did anything in this course inspire me to recommit to the ministry of evangelism, discipleship or church planting? Specify.
4. Did this course explore methods for church or mission outreach? Did I complete an assignment developing ministry methods that I think will help my church, mission, or other organization to grow or to reach out to others? Explain.

Having read all these, now I am ready to choose between 2 and 5 out of the 6 learning areas and write my ideas in the form as provided for this activity.