

**General Education Program
Adult Degree Completion – College of Extended Learning**

Learning Outcome:

GELO 3: Demonstrate an understanding of Christian Scripture, Tradition, and Ethics, including engagement in acts of devotion and works of mercy.

Outcome Measure: DUREL (Duke University Religion Index)

Students in BST304: Biblical Perspectives courses dedicate time reading, researching, writing, and responding to readings from the Holy Bible. They also select a faith-based community of their choosing to visit and write about their experience as a visitor. To align course assignment and explore the student’s religiosity, the student participates in the Duke University Religion Index (DUREL) study.

Criteria for Success (if applicable):

60% (or more) of students in BST304 will meet or exceed the measures of religiosity with a score of 1 or 2 in each category.

Longitudinal Data:

The percentages of BST304 students who scored 1 or 2 in each category were recorded. (Number of respondents who scored 1 or 2 / total respondents in parenthesis).

	BST304 Fa 15	BST304 Sp 16	BST304 Su 16	BST304 Fa 16	BST304 SP 17	BST304 Su 17	BST304 Fa 17	BST304 Sp 18
Q1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	30% (26/85)			
Q2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	58% (52/89)			
Q3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	72% (64/89)			
Q4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	66% (58/88)			
Q5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	64% (58/91)			

Conclusions Drawn from Data:

Q1 measures organized religious activities. This year’s ADC BST304 students did not meet the success criteria (missed the benchmark by 30 percentage points).

Q2 measures the non-organizational religious activities. This year’s ADC BST304 students did not meet the success criteria (missed the benchmark by 2 percentage points).

Q3-Q5 measure intrinsic religiosity. This year’s ADC BST304 students exceeded the success criteria for these survey questions.

These measures indicate that the ADC BST304 students self-scored higher on the questions about intrinsic religiosity and lower on the questions about participation in religious activities, especially with regard to organized religious activities.

Changes to be Made Based on Data:

It is interesting to note that our adult degree completion students in BST304, a required upper-division general education course, self-score higher for questions about intrinsic religiosity than for participation in religious activities, especially organized participation.

While the traditional UG data on GELO 3 indicates a decrease in participatory religious activities from the lower-division to the upper-division Bible, Theology, and Biblical Languages courses, there is not enough ADC longitudinal data and course-level variety to make a comparison for the ADC students in this regard. Going forward, it could be useful to note any trends concerning self-reported religious practices. At this time, in part due to the scarcity of longitudinal data and value-added data, no changes are recommended.

It should also be noted that the ADC student population is more diverse in racial/ethnic demographics and religious worldviews than the traditional UG student population, and tends to be more advanced in age and life experience than the traditional UG student population. These socio-cultural distinctives might also influence the self-perceived, self-rated practices resulting in this set of scores.

Rubric Used

The five-item scale assesses the student's organizational (e.g., prayer groups, Scripture study groups), non-organizational (e.g., private prayer, listening to religious podcasts), and intrinsic religiosity or subjective religiosity (i.e., personal religious commitment or motivation). The students are not evaluated on the "success" level of religiosity. Rather, the DUREL data is collected in order to track trends in religiosity of the students taking BST304: Biblical Perspectives.

(1) How often do you attend church or other religious meetings? (ORA—organizational religious activity)

1 – more than once a week; 2 – once a week; 3 – a few times a month; 4 – a few times a year; 5 – once a year or less; 6 – never

(2) How often do you spend time in private religious activities, such as prayer, meditation or Bible study? (NORA—non-organizational religious activity)

1 – more than once a week; 2 – once a week; 3 – a few times a month; 4 – a few times a year; 5 – once a year or less; 6 – never

The following section contains 3 statements about religious belief or experience. Please mark the extent to which each statement is true or not true for you.

(3) In my life, I experience the presence of the Divine (i.e., God) - (IR—Intrinsic religiosity)

1 - Definitely true; 2 - Tends to be true; 3 - Unsure; 4 - Tends not to be true; 5 - Definitely not true of me

(4) My religious beliefs are what really lie behind my whole approach to life – IR-(Intrinsic Religiosity)

1 - Definitely true; 2 - Tends to be true; 3 - Unsure; 4 - Tends not to be true; 5 - Definitely not true of me

(5) I try hard to carry my religion over into all other dealings in life - (IR—Intrinsic Religiosity)

1 - Definitely true; 2 - Tends to be true; 3 - Unsure; 4 - Tends not to be true; 5 - Definitely not true of me