

Executive Summary of the Quality Enhancement Plan Southwestern Assemblies of God University

The Quality Enhancement Plan for Southwestern Assemblies of God University is "**Learn to Think, Think to Learn: Developing Critical Thinking Skills in SAGU Students,**" abbreviated as the **L40L Program**. It is an initiative designed to train the University's students to become proficient critical thinkers, not only in an academic sense, but also in a practical sense in their chosen occupation or ministry.

Student learning is the heart of education. Therefore, the QEP for SAGU focuses on achieving the **Student Learning Outcomes** listed below:

1. Students will describe critical thinking.
2. Students will apply critical thinking to a variety of academic pursuits.

To accomplish these student learning outcomes, the QEP has two components: (a) a **Faculty Development program**, and (b) **critical thinking instruction** incorporated into a number of courses. The faculty development portion of the QEP includes professional training in critical thinking instruction for selected faculty members through attendance at seminars and meetings of nationally recognized critical thinking organizations and through online critical thinking courses. Then, those faculty members will train other faculty through on-campus workshops held during in-service periods each academic year. The critical thinking instruction portion of the QEP involves teaching various aspects of critical thinking in selected courses designed to reach the maximum number of on-campus undergraduate students: the introductory freshman course Strategies for Student Success, the Bible Study course required as part of our mandatory Bible and Theology core, and one upper-level course from each major, which will be termed a critical thinking-designated course. Instruction in critical thinking dispositions and skills will be incorporated in each of these courses in a progression of increasing complexity and practicality.

For **administration and assessment** of the L40L Program, a QEP director and assistant director will be appointed (faculty additional-duty positions), and an office assistant will be employed. Assessment of the program will be carried out formatively and summatively through the use of critical thinking assignments and projects, grading rubrics, the longitudinal administration of a standardized critical thinking test at least two times in a student's matriculation, and the one-time administration of a second standardized critical thinking test to students in an upper-level course in their major.

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