Every semester the East-West Psychology (EWP) department surveys the graduating class of Master’s students to garner feedback on their EWP education experience. In addition to student these surveys, in the past couple of years the EWP department has also begun to conduct program reviews to comply with the assessment needs from WASC. Additionally, the Department has initiated and completed its own self-study.

The program reviews involved looking at the curriculum with regard to program learning goals and student learning outcomes, and the review of these two aspects are completed by core faculty members via email, and then discussed at department meetings. The self-study was sequential and implemented in three phases. In the first phase, SurveyMonkey was used to collect data from current students, both MA and PhD, using a Likert scale and open-ended (see appendix A& B). In the second phase of the self-study, then EWP doctoral candidate Heidi Fraser organized and facilitated a focus group with both PhD and MA students, to collect data from a qualitative approach to complement and expand upon the data collected in the first phase of the study. In the final phase of the self-study, the Department had two external reviewers review departmental marketing materials, the MA and PhD curriculum and visit CIIS. During the visit to campus, the reviewer met with a group of current students, as well as with the faculty, to better understand the student and faculty perspective of the program.

A couple of themes have emerged in these data collection processes: (a) students are seeking a more robust engagement with diversity and inclusion within the EWP department (b) due to the unique nature of the coursework and the demand for students to deeply engage with the material, they have voiced a need for more support around their psycho-spiritual unfolding, and (c) students have expressed that the orientation course, EWP 6000 Introduction to East-West Psychology is too short, and that the amount of work for the course exceeds the one unit that is earned upon completion. The Program Chair, with some assistance from the Program Manager, work with the data from these inquiries, and write the reports. The entire faculty is involved in email exchanges, and at faculty meeting (2x/month) and retreats (1x/semester), and from these collaborations, decisions for change were made and subsequently implemented.

The changes that resulted from the data collection and department meetings are as follows: in an effort to bring more awareness around diversity and inclusion the EWP department has added a new required course for all EWP students (EWP 6329 Conscious Diversity Inner and Outer: A Diversity Process Class) This course will be required for all students as of Spring 2016. Additionally, the Intro to EWP course has now been changed from one unit to two units, to give students more time to orient into their studies. Lastly, the department is hosting a bi-monthly process group, EWP Community Council, to assist student in the integration of their psycho-spiritual unfolding that occurs during their studies in EWP.
Appendix A – self-study Likert scale and open-ended questions for EWP PhD students

1. Throughout the program I generally felt supported by EWP faculty and staff.

2. My knowledge of human psychology significantly increased.

3. My EWP education helped me enrich and deepen my sense of self.

4. I felt encouraged to develop new levels of emotional maturity.

5. I was taught to honor embodied ways of knowing beyond, but not excluding, intellectual knowing.


7. I was offered a rigorous integral education that met or exceeded my expectations.

8. I felt I was part of a learning community throughout the program.

9. In general I felt safe speaking up if I chose to in class.

10. What I learned catalyzed a significant change in my lifestyle.

11. I am now less judgmental and more tolerant of others who do not see things as I see them.

12. I have seen an increase in my ability to describe, analyze, critique, compare, and integrate knowledge from the variety of EWP traditions.

13. I learned to apply critical thinking in relation to basic issues of East-West cross-cultural hermeneutics.

14. My EWP degree has been important for my professional development.

15. I learned to successfully practice respectful dialogue, and fruitful collective and collaborative inquiry.

16. I learned how to support others in their psycho-spiritual transformation.

17. I value diversity more than when I started the program.

18. My relationship with the sacred (however I define that) deepened throughout the program.
19. In general I am satisfied with the teaching methods used in my EWP coursework.

20. I learned to design cogent, feasible, and methodologically rigorous research projects.

21. I now feel able to write original research papers and books according to professional scholarly standards.

22. I received enough critical feedback on my developing scholarly skills.

23. Overall, courses and instructors showed sensitivity to traditionally marginalized groups (e.g. LGBTQ, people of color, women, the poor).

24. I am more mindful of my impact on the environment.

25. I became part of a community that honors multiple worldviews.

26. What surprised you about the program?

27. In your view, what characterizes integral education?

28. How has your EWP learning experience and degree completion contributed to your personal development?

29. How has your EWP learning and degree completion contributed to your professional development and/or current pursuits?

30. What changes would improve EWP?

Thank you for your feedback! It will help EWP improve.
Appendix B - self-study Likert scale and open-ended questions for EWP MA students

1. Throughout the program I generally felt supported by EWP faculty and staff.

2. My knowledge of human psychology significantly increased.

3. My EWP education helped me enrich and deepen my sense of self.

4. I felt encouraged to develop new levels of emotional maturity.

5. I was taught to honor embodied ways of knowing beyond, but not excluding, intellectual knowing.


7. I was offered a rigorous integral education that met or exceeded my expectations.

8. I felt I was part of a learning community throughout the program.

9. In general I felt safe speaking up if I chose to in class.

10. What I learned catalyzed a significant change in my lifestyle.

11. I am now less judgmental and more tolerant of others who do not see things as I see them.

12. I have seen an increase in my ability to describe, analyze, critique, compare, and integrate knowledge from the variety of EWP traditions.

13. I learned to apply critical thinking in relation to basic issues of East-West cross-cultural hermeneutics.

14. My EWP degree has been important for my professional development.

15. During my Integrative Seminar I was able to develop a concrete professional business plan.

16. I learned to successfully practice respectful dialogue, and fruitful collective and collaborative
inquiry.

17. I learned how to support others in their psycho-spiritual transformation.

18. I value diversity more than when I started the program.

19. My relationship with the sacred (however I define that) deepened throughout the program.

20. In general I am satisfied with the teaching methods used in my EWP coursework.

21. I received enough critical feedback on my developing scholarly skills.

22. I learned to write academic papers integrating scholarly sources with my own embodied perspectives and informed opinions.

23. Overall, courses and instructors showed sensitivity to traditionally marginalized groups (e.g. LGBTQ, people of color, women, the poor).

24. I am more mindful of my impact on the environment.

25. I became part of a community that honors multiple worldviews.

26. What surprised you about the program?

27. In your view, what characterizes integral education?

28. How has your EWP learning experience and degree completion contributed to your personal development?

29. How has your EWP learning and degree completion contributed to your professional development and/or current pursuits?

30. What changes would improve EWP?

Thank you for your feedback! It will help EWP improve.