Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Philosophy and Religion with a concentration in Women’s Spirituality

Student Learning Outcomes – WSE PHD

1.0 Make an original and substantial contribution to the discipline of Women’s Spirituality

1.1 Engage an original and substantive research question for the dissertation that advances the field of Women’s Spirituality

1.2 Produce rigorous and critical scholarship that maintains currency with the themes and issues in the field

1.3 Demonstrate both independent and collaborative modalities of intellectual and practical work

1.4 Develop capacities to work with diverse ways of knowing and multiple theoretical frameworks and methodologies, including those that contest dominant paradigms and theories: e.g., feminist, womanist, postcolonial, indigenous, queer, critical, etc.

2.0 Demonstrate advanced research skills

2.1 Situate the trans-disciplinary scholarship of Women’s Spirituality in relationship to:

   A) at least one other academic discipline, such as Women’s Studies/Gender Studies, Religion, Philosophy, and/or Ethnic Studies, by engaging the knowledge of primary and secondary texts, voices, themes, and debates in the literature(s);

   B) local and global social, spiritual, and political discourses and movements.

2.2 Integrate traditional research/methodological approaches with feminist, embodied, critical, reflective, transpersonal, and/or collaborative community-based approaches

2.3 Integrate research from multiple spiritual/wisdom traditions, sacred knowledge, scripture, myth, ritual, and praxis

2.4 Critically analyze and evaluate one’s own standpoint, framework/worldview, and findings; and those of others

2.5 Demonstrate ability to communicate one’s findings in both scholarly and public arenas, using complex and nuanced language appropriate to the venue
3.0 Demonstrate commitment to socially-relevant Scholarship

3.1 Synthesize and evaluate multiple and diverse philosophies, theologies/thealogies, and theoretical frameworks in the field of Women’s Spirituality

3.2 Keep abreast of current advances within the field of Women’s Spirituality and related Areas [this is stated above in 1.2, which parallels the PLO from the Research Committee; I think it is fine to keep it in both places]

3.3 Demonstrate ability to connect one’s academic inquiry with real-world concerns of communities outside academia

4.0 Demonstrate transformation of self and society

4.1 Articulate, orally and in writing, personal reflections that exhibit growth in self-awareness (including one’s socio-political standpoint), emotional intelligence, and spiritual/philosophical/religious development

4.2 Articulate, orally and in writing, growth in cultural sensitivity/humility and awareness of one’s relationship to other humans and to the rest of the natural world

4.3 Demonstrate a complex and critical understanding of diversity and pluralism, including but not limited to diversity of a) gender, gender identity, sexual orientation; b) race, ethnicity, nationality, and culture; and c) ecological, spiritual, and religious identities

4.4 Demonstrate ability to critically evaluate multiple perspectives, including interconnected systems of oppression as well as practices of social transformation

4.5 Understand and apply one or more modalities of healing, creative production, and/or spiritual practice

4.6 Consciously cultivate a career path toward employment and public praxis for an “inspired vocation” or calling

5.0 Demonstrate professional skill

5.1 Develop teaching skills grounded in womanist/feminist and integral pedagogies, to be demonstrated through public presentations of scholarly papers or art work at professional or academic organizations, art exhibits, and other public venues; and in a style appropriate to the field or discipline and setting

5.2 Develop strong ability to articulate ideas in clear academic writing, to be communicated through research projects and/or publishing

5.3 Connect academic studies to grassroots activism, the non-profit sector, and/or other academic venues, through community service, internships, workshops, art exhibits, public lectures, and similar events.
5.4 Demonstrate leadership and facilitation skills in mediating “difficult conversations” that emerge through eco-socio-political diversities and/or facilitation of public rituals, workshops, and other special events

5.5 Develop proficiency in digital research skills as well as visual literacy, to be used for the presentation of one’s work

5.6 Cultivate good listening skills (online and in the classroom) and the ability to give and receive constructive feedback on academic work

5.7 Responsibly embody the ethical standards of one’s profession