WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY

Program Review Self-Study Template

Academic unit: Philosophy

College: LAS _____

Date of last review   2013_____

Date of last accreditation report (if relevant)   _____

List all degrees described in this report (add lines as necessary)

Degree: BA _____   CIP* code: 38.0101 _____

Degree: _____   CIP code: _____

Degree: ___   ____ CIP code:

*To look up, go to: Classification of Instructional Programs Website, http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/Default.aspx?y=55

Faculty of the academic unit (add lines as necessary)

preserving knowledge through their scholarly activities.   Several members of the department are nationally or internationally recognized as authorities in their respective fields. The department supports the university's service mission and is actively involved in institutional, community and

Service Award in recognition of their contributions in this area.

d.   Has the mission of the Program (s) changed since last review?   ☐ Yes ☒ No

nominated for other teaching awards. Course evaluation data and annual review of teaching portfolios

confirm that all members of the department are doing a superb job of teaching.

Not only are faculty members excellent teachers, they have a heavy teaching load. The Philosophy Department averages 268 credit hours per FTE. This is higher than the college average of 245 credit hours per FTE or the university average of 232 credit hours per FTE.

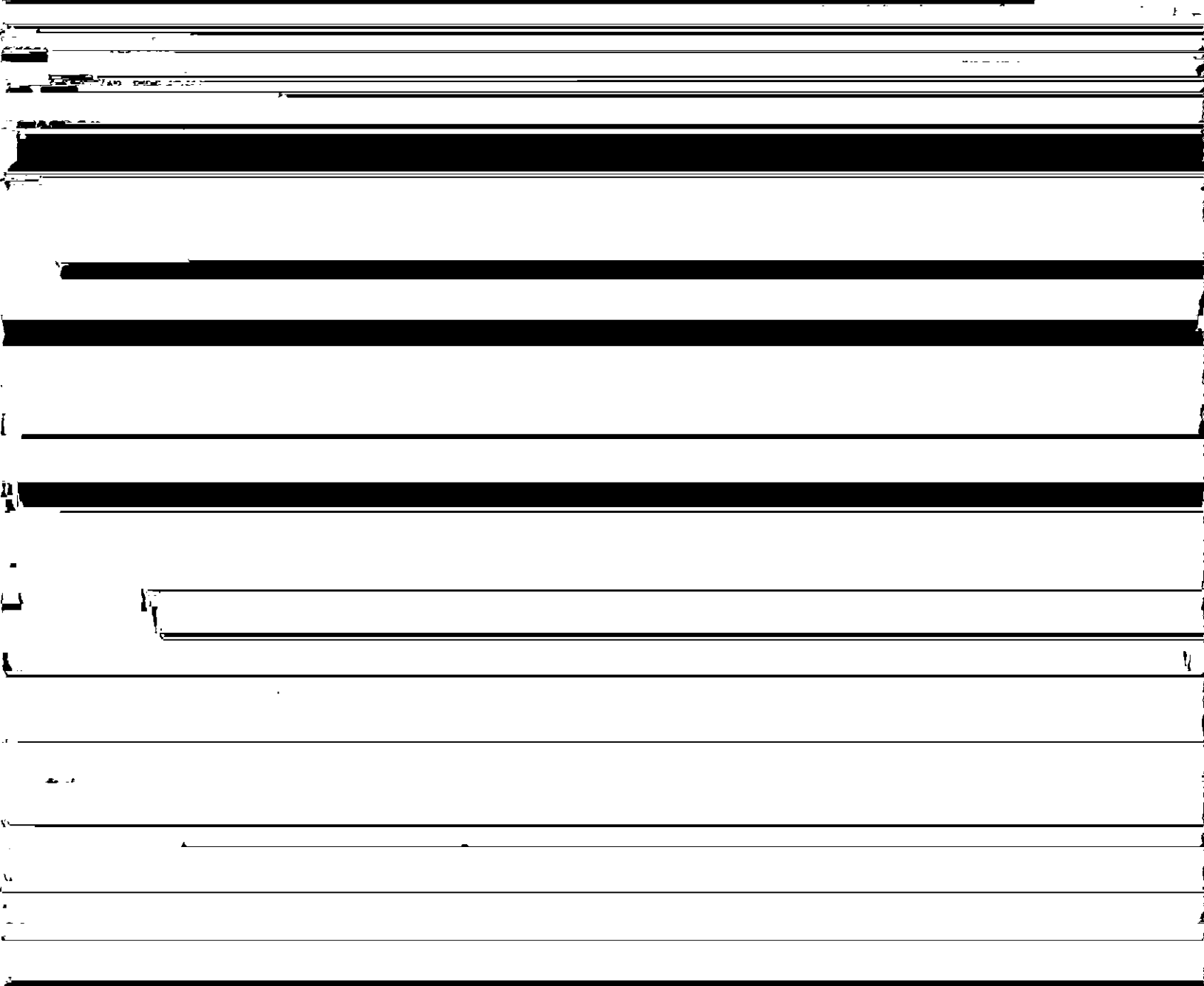i. Provide a brief assessment of the overall quality of the academic program using the data from 3a – 3e

Provide assessment here:

About 50% of our graduates attend post-graduate programs, mostly philosophy PhD programs or law schools. These students eventually pursue careers in academia or the law. Many of these students lay out for a year or two to pay off school debts and/or build a nest egg prior to starting their post-graduate programs. So, while 50% of philosophy graduates from this review period already are pursuing graduate education, the number probably will increase over the next couple of years.

WSU philosophy graduates who completed their education with a bachelor's degree are employed in various capacities, wherever there is a demand for a broad, liberal education and strong critical reading, writing, and analytical reasoning skills: business, journalism, publishing, the computer industry and the military – to name just a few. Unless these students keep in touch, we have no way of systematically tracking their employment. However, of the students who graduated during the last review period and did not pursue further education, we know that

Department members also serve on in leadership roles on important college and university committees: the college tenure and promotion committee, the university tenure and promotion committee, the

The department was instrumental in establishing and maintaining the Pre-Law Society which has

Most students entering the university have no prior exposure to philosophy and most freshmen concentrate on completing general education requirements. Consequently, most students do not even

philosophy major until their junior year. This is confirmed by the fact that, in spite of not recruiting 15 new majors at the freshmen or sophomore level, we now have 34 juniors or seniors who are declared majors, surpassing our goal of 25. Because students do not typically declare a philosophy major until the junior year, it typically takes our majors 5-6 years to graduate. If these 34 juniors and seniors graduate in the next two years, we should average a minimum of 15 graduates a year.

We did not meet our goal of graduating 10 students during 2013. This was largely a consequence of losing two senior professors: one accepted a position at a prestigious PhD program and one died. Losing 25% of our staff, we were unable to offer the array of upper division courses necessary to attract students to the program and serve the major. This problem has been addressed through recent hires