



College of Biblical Studies-Houston
Quality Enhancement Plan
First-Year Experience Stewardship Course

Executive Summary

Introduction

CBS is a diverse school of ministry preparation and biblical education that resides in the diverse urban setting of Houston, Texas. For over forty years, CBS has been a part of preparing its students to be good stewards of the resources and purpose God has given them, and it continues to pursue excellence through the development of this first-year experience course.

Student Profile

In general, CBS students tend to be older, African-American, preparing for a career change towards vocational ministry, and/or fulfilling a life-long, personal desire for a degree. Specifically, CBS students are increasingly likely to be either mid-30s or approaching retirement: the proportion of 18-25 and 26-35 year olds among CBS graduates is trending down from 2009-2016; the proportion aged 36-45 holds steady at 40% (the largest portion); consequently, the cohorts 45+ are larger. CBS students are pre-dominantly African American; Hispanics and white students comprise on average 30% and 15%, respectively. They are most likely not employed in ministry, yet, they came for the ministry training: over 95% expect their CBS education to aid their career goals, and 65% of graduates intend their training to aid their future employment. They are almost equally likely to be male (52%) as to be female (48%) based on long-term trends.

Purpose Statement

Because CBS students tend to exhibit fewer of the traits and skills that correspond to long-term success in college, CBS has chosen to implement a required, 3-credit-hour college preparedness course for all relevant incoming students that is centered on the concept of οἰκονόμος or Steward(ship).

Program Goals and Outcomes

The goal of this QEP is to equip students with a biblical worldview regarding the stewardship of their educational experience, their time, their finances, and the spiritual disciplines in order to prepare them not only for successful completion of a CBS degree but also life after college.

The student learning outcomes of QEP Course on Stewardship are three-fold. The student will explain how to maximize their intellectual stewardship by adapting their study skills and time management to conform to their God-given learning style. The student will improve their financial stewardship by identifying ways to accommodate the cost of attendance so that they can persist in college. The student will steward the spiritual disciplines in order to grow as worshipful disciples academically, personally and in their local church.

Summary Statement

CBS has developed a QEP that (1) demonstrates institutional capability for the initiation, implementation, and completion of the QEP; (2) demonstrates that it has included broad-based involvement of institutional constituencies in the development and proposed implementation of the QEP; and (3) has identified goals and a plan to assess the achievement of these goals.