

1st Learning Objective/ Intended Outcome: Upon completion of the program, graduates can function effectively in their area of expertise.				
Assessment Plan	Implementation	Assessment Criteria	Outcomes Data	Decisions
Student demonstrates knowledge of key principles, methodologies, and subject areas within discipline.	All graduate coursework is graded.	> 3.0 cumulative GPA on 4.0 scale	100% of graduates met assessment criteria.	No Changes Necessary
Student persuasively demonstrates significance, originality, and plausibility of the research/dissertation project.	Oral and written (PhD) or written only (MS) prospectus presentation presenting research topic.	Advisor is surveyed after thesis/dissertation prospectus defense. Committee approves/disapproves prospectus.	All students successfully completed their prospectus defense (written and/or oral).	No Changes Necessary
Student writes a solid thesis/dissertation that confirms mastery of the field. Thesis demonstrates the identification of and solution to research problems.	Students provide written and oral presentations of their research findings during defense.	Advisor is surveyed after thesis/dissertation final defense. Committee approves/disapproves defense.	All students successfully completed their thesis/dissertation defense (written and oral).	No Changes Necessary
Students required to author/co-author articles for conference or in refereed and/or well respected journals.	PhD students required to produce and submit one paper at time of degree completion. MS students are encouraged to give a professional presentation with an abstract.	At least one first authored peer-reviewed publication submitted for a PhD student and at least one conference abstract for an MS student.	100% met criteria for PhD students.	MS data not collected. Question added to thesis/dissertation evaluation form.