

Academic Assessment Plan

Program Goals

1. Provide international level research experience for the doctoral students
2. Develop students that have the ability to teach high level content in an educational setting.
3. Prepare future scientists, practitioners/clinicians, or university teachers

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Student will be able to critically read, analyze and synthesize the literature in their area of interest.
2. Students will be able to write and publish manuscripts based on the research that they are involved.
3. Students will develop communication skills and present at state, regional, and national conferences.

Process for Assessing each Student Learning Outcome

1. Timeline for Assessment & Analysis

Yearly

2. Means of Assessment & Desired Level of Student Achievement

Direct Assessment:

- Mean score in research methods and statistics courses (>3.0)
- Mean score in core community health courses (>3.0)
- Successful dissemination of findings via peer-reviewed publication and/or presentation at conferences (100%)

Indirect Assessment:

- Percentage of students who pass their comprehensive exams (>80%)
- Percentage of students who publish at least one first author paper during their time in the doctoral program by the time they graduate. (100%)

3. Report of results

See Annual Academic Assessment Report below

Annual Academic Assessment Report 2020-2021

Results of analysis of assessment of Student Learning Outcomes following timeline stated above

Since 2015 most PhD students had at least one, though often three or more peer-reviewed publications and presentations by the time they graduated from the program. Current PhD students in the program have 32 publications in progress, 22 under review, 23 published, and have presented 28 papers at national and international conferences.

Percentage of students who pass their dissertation defense = 100% (5 out of 5)

Percentage of students who pass their comprehensive exams = 92% (11 out of 12)

Any changes to degree/certificate planned or made on the basis of the assessment and analysis

None at this time

Any changes to the assessment process made or planned

Starting Spring 2020 PhD students have started filling out an Annual Report that allows more direct assessment of their progress and outcomes. We will continue to improve this reporting method.