

GRADUATE PROGRAM ASSESSMENT PLAN, 2006-2007

d. Appropriate graduate curriculum

- The department should strive to offer sufficient graduate level courses in each semester to allow students in each of the program core areas to graduate within two years
- Establish a core curriculum for the Master of Science degree.

e. Enrolling Sufficient Number of Students

- The department should strive to enroll at least three Master of Science students per faculty member.
- The department should strive to grant at least one Master of Science degree per academic year per faculty member.

f. Placement rate and graduate school admission

- Graduates of the program should be placed within one year of graduation either in jobs or in graduate programs for further study.

g. Satisfaction with the program

- Graduate School will provide the resources to survey the graduates of the program every three years.

F. Assessment of Educational Student Outcomes

a. Student performance

- Students are required to maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.00 out of 4.00 while enrolled in the program to maintain full standing.
- Students are required to complete a minimum of 30 graduate semester credit hours for thesis option or 33 hours for non-thesis or directed-project options.
- Students with the thesis option or the directed-project option are required to pass an oral examination on their thesis or directed project. Students with the non-thesis option are required to pass a written examination in their major field of study.
- Students are encouraged, but not required, to submit their theses for publication.

b. Competency in areas of specialty

- The students must take at least three core courses in their area of specialty, identified by the faculty in that area.

c. Self Education

- The graduates must have demonstrated the ability for independent research.

G. Feedback into the Program

Process:

The department has a Graduate Committee composed of the graduate coordinator and two faculty members in the department. This committee meets annually to review the results of the assessment and to provide feedback into the program. The same committee also reviews the program mission, objectives, outcomes, and the assessment process periodically and in consultation with other faculty members.

H. Annual Report:

The Assessment Report documents:

- Results from data collection during the academic year
- Dates when faculty met to consider the results
- Summary of decisions made at the meeting of the faculty
- When issues identified at the meeting will be considered again