

Revised Template
Degree Program
Assessment of Student Learning Plan
Kansas State University

RECEIVED
FEB 02 2005
BY:.....

- Check the box if your program's student learning outcomes have been modified since November 2003. If so, please email (apr@ksu.edu) or attach a hard copy to this document.

A. College, Department, and Date

College: *College of Agriculture*
Department: *Department of Agronomy*
Date: *November 5, 2004*

B. Contact Person(s) for the Assessment Plans

Michel D. Ransom, Professor and Assistant Head for Teaching
David B. Mengel, Professor and Head

C. Degree Program

B.S. in Agronomy

D. Assessment of Student Learning Three-Year Plan

1. Student Learning Outcome(s)

Of the 10 Student Learning Outcomes developed by our department, we will focus on three in this three-year assessment plan.

Graduates from the Kansas State University Agronomy baccalaureate degree program will have demonstrated:

- The ability to think clearly and creatively and to apply critical thinking skills when evaluating information*
- The application of scientific principles and problem solving skills to Agronomy*
- A knowledge and technical competence in multiple areas of Agronomy*

Special rationale for selecting these learning outcomes (optional):

None

Relationship to K-State Student Learning Outcomes (insert the program SLOs and check all that apply):

Program SLOs	University-wide SLOs (Undergraduate Programs)					Program SLO is conceptually different from university SLOs
	Knowledge	Critical Thinking	Communication	Diversity	Academic / Professional Integrity	
<i>The ability to think clearly and creatively and to apply critical thinking skills when evaluating information</i>	X	X				
<i>The application of scientific principles and problem solving skills to Agronomy</i>	X	X				
<i>A knowledge and technical competence in multiple areas of Agronomy</i>	X					

2. How will the learning outcomes be assessed? What groups will be included in the assessment?

Learning outcomes	Measures			Who will be assessed?
	Direct	Indirect	Not sure	
<i>The ability to think clearly and creatively and to apply critical thinking skills when evaluating information</i>	Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 220 and 305			Students in all Agronomy options
	Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 330, 360, and 375			Students in the Consulting and Production (CP), Business and Industry (BI), and Plant Science and Biotechnology (PSB) options
	Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 335, 360, 375, and 515			Students in the Soil and Environmental Science (SES) option

	Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 501 and 515			Students in the Range Management (RM) option All graduating seniors in Agronomy
<i>The application of scientific principles and problem solving skills to Agronomy</i>	Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 330, 360, and 375 Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 335, 360, 375, and 515 Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 501 and 515			Students in the CP, BI, and PSB options Students in the SES option Students in the RM option All graduating seniors in Agronomy
<i>A knowledge and technical competence in multiple areas of agronomy</i>	Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 220, 305, 330, 360, and 375 Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 220, 305, 335, 360, 375, and 515 Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 220, 305, 501, and 515 Project report in Agronomy Internship (AGRON 405)			Students in the CP, BI, and PSB options Students in the SES option Students in the RM option Students taking AGRON 405

	Results of certification exams given by ARCPACS of the American Society of Agronomy for Certified Crop Adviser, Certified Professional Agronomist, and Certified Professional Soil Scientist			Agronomy students taking these certification exams
		During the senior exit interview, students will be asked to rate the extent to which they have accomplished this outcome		All graduating seniors in Agronomy

3. When will these outcomes be assessed? When and in what format will the results of the assessment be discussed?

Learning outcomes	Timetable to Assess Learning Outcomes			Baseline created?
	2005	2006	2007	
<i>The ability to think clearly and creatively and to apply critical thinking skills when evaluating information</i>	Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 220, 305, 330, 335, 360, 375, 501, and 515	Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 220, 305, 330, 335, 360, 375, 501, and 515 During the senior exit interview, students will be asked to rate the extent to which they have accomplished this outcome	Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 220, 305, 330, 335, 360, 375, 501, and 515 During the senior exit interview, students will be asked to rate the extent to which they have accomplished this outcome	3-year baseline data created after 2007 No baselines are planned
<i>The application of scientific principles and problem solving skills to Agronomy</i>	Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 330, 335, 360, 375, 501, and 515	Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 330, 335, 360, 375, 501, and 515 During the senior exit interview, students will be asked to rate the extent to which they have accomplished this outcome	Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 330, 335, 360, 375, 501, and 515 During the senior exit interview, students will be asked to rate the extent to which they have accomplished this outcome	3-year baseline data created after 2007 No baselines are planned

<i>A knowledge and technical competence in multiple areas of agronomy</i>	Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 220, 305, 330, 335, 360, 375, 501, and 515	Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 220, 305, 330, 335, 360, 375, 501, and 515	Selected questions from a range of 1 to 4 exams in AGRON 220, 305, 330, 335, 360, 375, 501, and 515	3-year baseline data created after 2007
	Project report in Agronomy Internship (AGRON 405)	Project report in Agronomy Internship (AGRON 405)	Project report in Agronomy Internship (AGRON 405)	3-year baseline data created after 2007
			Results of certification exams administered by ARCPACS of the American Society of Agronomy for Certified Crop Adviser, Certified Professional Agronomist, and Certified Professional Soil Scientist	No baselines are planned
		During the senior exit interview, students will be asked to rate the extent to which they have accomplished this outcome	During the senior exit interview, students will be asked to rate the extent to which they have accomplished this outcome	No baselines are planned

4. What is the unit's process for using assessment results to improve student learning?

The Course and Curriculum Committee, composed of a core of teaching faculty from the various disciplines in Agronomy in addition to undergraduate and graduate student representatives, meets regularly once each semester. During their regular meeting, this committee will review the assessment data collected. The committee members will discuss the results and changes that may be needed. Course and curriculum changes will be recommended to the Agronomy faculty according to the current procedure followed for such changes. Where baselines are developed, future assessments will be compared to the baseline to monitor improvement and stability in the performance of students.