

Cover Sheet for Revised Assessment Plans

Directions: Please complete a separate cover sheet for each degree program (e.g., Associates – Doctorate). Feel free to make copies of this sheet if needed. Those graduate programs with an integrated master's and doctoral program may submit one cover sheet. The department head and respective dean are to sign before the plans are submitted to the Provost.

Department / Unit: Department of Statistics

Title and Level of Academic Program (e.g., Chemistry, Ph.D.): M.S. Statistics

When submitting an Assessment Plan, please check and indicate when the faculty endorsed the plan.



Faculty have met, reviewed, and endorsed the Assessment Plans being submitted for this degree program.

Date of Endorsement:

7/20/05

John E. Boyer, Jr.

Department Head's Signature

Date

1/19/06

College Dean's Signature
(Required for Undergraduate Programs)

Date

R. M. Brown

Dean of the Graduate School's Signature
(Required for Graduate Degree Programs)

Date

2/10/06

November 1, 2004: Assessment plans are to be sent to the respective Dean
November 29, 2004: Relevant materials are to be sent from the Deans to the Provost

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

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 Arts & Sciences*
Department: *Statistics*
Date: *September 20, 2005*

B. Contact Person(s) for the Assessment Plans

Paul Nelson, professor
Shie-Shien Yang, professor
Jeffrey Pontius, associate professor
Thomas Loughin, professor

C. Degree Program

M.S. in Statistics

D. Assessment of Student Learning Three-Year Plan

1. Student Learning Outcome(s)

1. *Student will have demonstrated an understanding of the fundamental ideas of statistical theory. (this is #1 on the department's list of SLO's)*
2. *Student will have demonstrated an understanding of the practical application of statistics to real problems.*
3. *Student will have demonstrated report-writing skills.*

Special rationale for selecting these learning outcomes (optional):

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

Program SLOs	University-wide SLOs (Graduate Programs)			Program SLO is conceptually different from university SLOs
	Knowledge	Skills	Attitudes and Professional Conduct	
1. theory	X			
2. application		X		
3. writing		X		

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

The departmental committee on graduate student progress will collect and summarize reports from faculty at the end of the fall and spring semesters on the progress of every M.S. candidate in meeting each of our SLO's, using the scales U (unsatisfactory), S (satisfactory), E (Excellent) or NA (not applicable).

Each candidate will write a substantial paper, the M.S. Report, having some research component, and present and defend it in a forum open to the public. The student's supervisory committee will have the opportunity to ask questions to evaluate the candidate's mastery of the department's SLO's using the scales given above. The supervisory committee will also decide whether the report receives a summary grade of pass or fail, which will be sent to the Graduate School.

Each candidate will make an oral presentation describing some aspect of their practical experience as part of the requirements for Statistics 945 (statistical consulting.) The faculty member supervising Statistics 945 will assign a pass or fail grade and use the above scale to evaluate the oral presentations, which will be open to the public.

The Major Professor and the faculty member supervising Statistics 945 will each submit to the department's committee on graduate student progress a summary checklist of scores on the student's scores on our SLO's and a short narrative on the student's performance in the case of substantial deficiencies

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

The departmental committee on graduate student progress will monitor and evaluate the reports it receives from faculty on each M.S. candidate at the end of the fall and spring semesters. Deficiencies will be noted and, if appropriate, actions for remediation suggested. The candidate's advisor will be responsible for conveying the results of these evaluations to the student at the beginning of each semester, commencing with the student's second semester in the program.

Students typically register for Statistics 945 in their third or fourth semester and begin work on their M.S. reports at the beginning of the fourth semester.

The department head will be responsible for the execution of the evaluation process, which will begin functioning in the fall 2006 semester.

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

The departmental committee on graduate student progress will write a report at the end of the academic year indicating areas where M.S. candidates are systematically failing to meet our SLO's. Using this information, the faculty will, meeting as a committee of the whole, discuss and recommend appropriate changes such as course contents, methods of instruction and adding or deleting courses.