

**Great Plains-IDEA
Youth Development Masters Degree Program
within the School of Family Studies and Human Services
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 Human Ecology*
 Department: *School of Family Studies and Human Services (FSHS)*
 Date: *April 10, 2007*

B. Contact Person(s) for the Assessment Plans

Elaine Johannes, PhD, Asst. Professor & Extension Specialist – Youth Development
William Meredith, PhD, Director, School of Family Studies and Human Services

C. Degree Program

Youth Development Masters Degree Program within the School of Family Studies and Human Services

D. Assessment of Student Learning Three-Year Plan

1. Student Learning Outcome(s)

1. *Understand, integrate, and be able to apply conceptual approaches to youth development (e.g., asset building, positive youth development, community youth development, risk and resiliency).*
2. *Understand normative pathways to development: Understand youth and family cultural issues/contexts and their micro- and macro-influences on positive youth outcomes.*
3. *Understand and apply basic research and evaluation skills to youth development programming through an applied project that serves as a capstone experience under the direction of the candidate's home institution.*
4. *Have developed skills in problem-solving with "stakeholders" including funding sources, boards, other agencies, families and other professionals.*
5. *Demonstrate understanding of the development and impact of local, regional, state, federal, and global policies on youth and be able to advocate through policy development for optimal youth outcomes.*
6. *Be able to develop and apply resources (e.g., agency budgeting, grant writing and processing, fund raising) for successful implementation and management of youth-serving organizations.*
7. *Understand the history of the youth development area and advocate for the continued professionalization of the field.*

Special rationale for selecting these learning outcomes (optional):

The Youth Development Masters Degree program is the only graduate program focusing solely on youth development that is offered completely online through an alliance of public universities. The learning outcomes of the program are essential indicators of the likely success of that student in a youth development professional role. Outcomes were written in 2001 by a team of faculty representing the GP-IDEA participating universities.

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

	University-wide SLOs (<u>Graduate Programs</u>)			Program SLO is conceptually different from university SLOs
Program SLOs	Knowledge	Skills	Attitudes and Professional Conduct	
1. <i>Understand, integrate, and be able to apply conceptual approaches to youth development (e.g., asset building, positive youth development, community youth development, risk and resiliency)</i>	X	X		
2. <i>Understand normative pathways to development: Understand youth and family cultural issues/contexts and their micro- and macro-influences on positive youth outcomes</i>	X	X		
3. <i>Understand and apply basic research and evaluation skills to youth development programming through an applied project that serves as a capstone experience under the direction of the candidate's home institution</i>	X	X	X	
4. <i>Have developed skills in problem-solving with "stakeholders" including funding sources, boards, other agencies, families and other professionals.</i>	X	X	X	
5. <i>Demonstrate understanding of the development and impact of local, regional, state, federal, and global policies on youth and be able to advocate through policy development for optimal youth outcomes.</i>	X	X	X	
6. <i>Be able to develop and apply resources (e.g., agency budgeting, grant writing and processing, fund raising) for successful implementation and management of youth-serving organizations</i>	X	X	X	
7. <i>Understand the history of the youth development area and advocate for the continued professionalization of the field.</i>	X	X	X	

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

The Student Learning Outcomes will be assessed by the GP-IDEA University faculty in the context of the coursework required for the Masters Degree. The Student Learning Outcomes will also be included in the GP-IDEA student Intake and Post Degree self-report completed by each GP-IDEA Youth Development student by their home institution.

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

Student Learning Outcomes will be assessed through each required course and as a self-report at the completion of their Degree program. Results are assessed during semi-annual GP-IDEA Youth Development faculty meetings held throughout the academic year.

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

Assessment data collected will be reviewed by GP-IDEA Youth Development faculty at regularly held semi-annual faculty meetings. Trends will be discussed, and actions will be taken as necessary to improve student learner outcomes.