

APR 13 2005

BY:.....

**PhD in Human Nutrition
Assessment of Student Learning Outcome Plan
Kansas State University**

A. College, Department, and Date of this Submission

College: Human Ecology
Department: Human Nutrition
Date of Submission: October 2004

B. Contact Person(s) for the Assessment Plans

Denis M. Medeiros, PhD, RD; Professor and Head

C. Program-degree, minor, or certification

PhD in Human Nutrition

D. Assessment of Student Learning Three-Year Plan

1. Student Learning Outcomes

PhD student learning outcomes were each divided into three areas. The Department of Human Nutrition will focus on 3 student learning outcomes in its 3-year assessment plans:

- Independently and as a team member, design and conduct research activities with outcomes worthy of publication in a refereed professional publication,
- Design and draft proposals seeking institutional or extramural funding,
- Generate knowledge and integrate with current knowledge base in the focus area.

Rationale: These SLOs represent the 3 selected by the department and forwarded last year. The research interests of the department are very broad but certain competencies are expected of all students to be competitive at the national and international levels. These SLOs are identified and to be measured since they were deemed by the graduate faculty to be essential for competing successfully in a research environment.

	University-wide SLOs (<u>Graduate Programs</u>)			Program SLO is conceptually different from university SLOs
Program SLOs	Knowledge	Skills	Attitudes and Professional Conduct	
1. Independently and as a team member, design and conduct research activities with outcomes worthy of publication in a refereed professional publication		X	X	
2. Design and draft proposals seeking institutional or extramural funding		X		
3. Generate knowledge and integrate with current knowledge base in the focus area.	X		X	

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

Learning Outcomes	Course(s)	Direct Measures			Indirect Measures	Who will be assessed?
		Introduction	Reinforced	Mastery		
1. Independently and as a team member, design and conduct research activities with outcomes worthy of publication in a refereed professional publication	HN 999	Assisting others with research projects	Dissertation proposal development and acceptance by the doctoral committee	Successful defense of the dissertation	Assisting others with research project	All PhD students
				Publication of manuscripts from research		All PhD students
2. Design and draft proposals seeking institutional or extramural funding.	HN 995		Develop a mock proposal seeking extramural funding with a grade of B or better		Proposal submission/proposal award if funded	Students enrolled in HN 995
3. Generate knowledge and integrate with current knowledge base	HN 880	Present a research based seminar with a grade of B		90% of students will present data at a national/international meeting		PhD students enrolled in HN 880

in the focus area		or better		Successful completion of preliminary examination		All PhD students
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3. When will these outcomes be assessed? When and in what format will the results of the assessment be discussed?

Learning Outcomes	Timetable for Assessment for Learning Outcomes			Baseline Created?
	2005	2006	2007	
1. Independently and as a team member, design and conduct research activities with outcomes worthy of publication in a refereed professional publication,			Assess number of manuscripts published or accepted over 3 year period.	2007
2. Design and draft proposals seeking institutional or extramural funding.		Complete mock proposal		2006
3. Generate knowledge and integrate with current knowledge base in the focus area	Assess HN 880 performance	Assess HN 880 performance	Assess HN 880 performance	2005
	Preliminary Exam results	Preliminary Exam results	Preliminary Exam results	2005

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

Learning Outcome	Improvement Plan
1. Independently and as a team member, design and conduct research activities with outcomes worthy of publication in a refereed professional publication,	Information will be used in determining the research environment for the department in terms of faculty mentoring, graduate student development and admission standards. Information will be used not only for curriculum aspects, but for consideration of developing special targeted workshops for graduated students to target specific issues involved in various aspects of the research enterprise.
2. Design and draft proposals seeking institutional or extramural funding.	The HN 995 is required for all PhD students. Normally the practice is to have PhD students take this late in their program. The development of a proposal for extramural funding will be used to determine if this experience is satisfactory or if other training at proposal writing earlier on in the program is needed.
3. Generate knowledge and integrate with current knowledge base in the focus area	Review if student admissions need to be altered, or if faculty are providing adequate mentoring of their PhD students. Determine if added coursework or other educational opportunities are needed for students.