

# **Program Outcomes Assessment**

**BA/BS in Multidisciplinary Studies**

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## **General Information (Program Outcomes Assessment)**

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# Standing Requirements

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## 📖 Mission Statement

The mission of the Multidisciplinary Studies major, housed within Interdisciplinary Programs, is to provide a high-quality educational experience for students at ISU whose intellectual and career interests are not served by the existing majors in the university. Our particular focus is to guide students in an interdisciplinary exploration of their interests, while challenging them to explore those interests deeply and systematically.

## 📖 Outcomes Library

### BA/BS in Multidisciplinary Studies Outcome Set

#### Obj. 1: Communicate effectively

Multidisciplinary Studies majors are able to communicate effectively using the methods appropriate to their course of study, usually in writing.

| Outcome   | Mapping   |
|---|---|
| SLO 1.1: Students understand material<br>Students understand material they read, hear, and see.   | No Mapping  |
| SLO 1.2: Students use proper techniques for communication<br>Students use proper techniques for the form of communication in which they are engaged.                        | <b>Foundational Studies:</b> 10. Express themselves effectively, professionally, and persuasively both orally and in writing. |
| SLO 1.3: Students persuade, inform, explain, or perform<br>Students persuade, inform, explain to, or perform for (as appropriate to their course of study) their audiences. | <b>Foundational Studies:</b> 10. Express themselves effectively, professionally, and persuasively both orally and in writing. |

#### Obj. 2: Demonstrate habits of integrative thinking

Multidisciplinary Studies majors demonstrate "habits of integrative thinking," especially across the disciplines constituting their major.

| Outcome   | Mapping  |
|---|--|
| SLO 2.1: Understand the various disciplines in major<br>Students understand the various disciplines constituting their major.   | No Mapping   |
| SLO 2.2: Understand theoretical basis of interdisciplinarity<br>Students understand the theoretical basis of interdisciplinarity.   | No Mapping   |
| SLO 2.3: Use different disciplines to explore and explain<br>Students use different disciplines in conjunction with one another to explore and explain intellectual problems. | <b>Foundational Studies:</b> 2. Critically evaluate the ideas of others. |

#### Obj. 3: Transfer skills from one setting to another

Multidisciplinary Studies majors demonstrate the ability to transfer skills from one setting to another.



| <b>Outcome</b>   | <b>Mapping</b> |
|--|----------------|
| SLO 3.1: Acquire problem solving skills from different disc.<br>Students acquire problem-solving skills from at least two different disciplines.   | No Mapping     |
| SLO 3.2: Assess problems or situations<br>Students assess problems or situations to determine which skills may be useful in addressing them.       | No Mapping     |
| SLO 3.3: Apply variety of skills to address problems<br>Students apply the variety of skills they have in addressing these problems or situations. | No Mapping     |

## Curriculum Map

### Active Curriculum Maps

#### **BA/BS in Multidisciplinary Studies Curriculum Map** (See appendix)

**Alignment Set:** BA/BS in Multidisciplinary Studies Outcome Set

**Created:** 04/26/2012 7:46:16 am CST

**Last Modified:** 04/26/2012 7:48:39 am CST

## Communication of Outcomes

The full Assessment Plan, in both narrative and template formats, will be posted on the Multidisciplinary Studies website. A summary of the Objectives and Process will be included with the prefatory material for Multidisciplinary Studies in the Undergraduate Catalog.

## Archive (This area is to be used for archiving pre-TaskStream assessment data and for current documents.)

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### Archive

#### File Attachments:

1. **Multidisciplinary Studies Assessment Matrix 2012** (See appendix)  
.....
2. **Multidisciplinary Studies Assessment Plan 2012** (See appendix)  
.....

## 2013-2014 Assessment Cycle

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### Assessment Plan

#### Outcomes and Measures

#### BA/BS in Multidisciplinary Studies Outcome Set

##### Obj. 1: Communicate effectively

Multidisciplinary Studies majors are able to communicate effectively using the methods appropriate to their course of study, usually in writing.

##### SLO 1.1: Students understand material

Students understand material they read, hear, and see.

▼ **Measure:** Common Rubric  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 common rubric

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2013 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

##### SLO 1.2: Students use proper techniques for communication

Students use proper techniques for the form of communication in which they are engaged.

▼ **Measure:** Common Rubric  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 common rubric

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2013 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

##### SLO 1.3: Students persuade, inform, explain, or perform

Students persuade, inform, explain to, or perform for (as appropriate to their course of study) their audiences.

▼ **Measure:** Final paper of project  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 final paper or project

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2013 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

### Assessment Findings

#### Finding per Measure

#### BA/BS in Multidisciplinary Studies Outcome Set

##### Obj. 1: Communicate effectively

Multidisciplinary Studies majors are able to communicate effectively using the methods appropriate to their course of study, usually in writing.

**SLO 1.1: Students understand material**

Students understand material they read, hear, and see.

▼ **Measure:** Common Rubric  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 common rubric

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2013 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

**Findings** for Common Rubric

*No Findings Added*

**SLO 1.2: Students use proper techniques for communication**

Students use proper techniques for the form of communication in which they are engaged.

▼ **Measure:** Common Rubric  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 common rubric

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2013 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

**Findings** for Common Rubric

*No Findings Added*

**SLO 1.3: Students persuade, inform, explain, or perform**

Students persuade, inform, explain to, or perform for (as appropriate to their course of study) their audiences.

▼ **Measure:** Final paper of project  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 final paper or project

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2013 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

**Findings** for Final paper of project

*No Findings Added*

**Overall Recommendations**

*No text specified*

**Overall Reflection**

*No text specified*

 **Action Plan**

\_\_\_\_\_

 **Status Report**

## 2014-2015 Assessment Cycle

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### Assessment Plan

#### Outcomes and Measures

#### BA/BS in Multidisciplinary Studies Outcome Set

##### **Obj. 2: Demonstrate habits of integrative thinking**

Multidisciplinary Studies majors demonstrate "habits of integrative thinking," especially across the disciplines constituting their major.

##### **SLO 2.1: Understand the various disciplines in major**

Students understand the various disciplines constituting their major.

▼ **Measure:** Common Rubric  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 common rubric

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2014 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

##### **SLO 2.2: Understand theoretical basis of interdisciplinarity**

Students understand the theoretical basis of interdisciplinarity.

▼ **Measure:** Common Rubric  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 common rubric

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2014 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

##### **SLO 2.3: Use different disciplines to explore and explain**

Students use different disciplines in conjunction with one another to explore and explain intellectual problems.

▼ **Measure:** Final paper of project  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 final paper or project

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2014 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

▼ **Measure:** Reflection  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 reflection

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2014 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

## Assessment Findings

### Finding per Measure

#### BA/BS in Multidisciplinary Studies Outcome Set

##### Obj. 2: Demonstrate habits of integrative thinking

Multidisciplinary Studies majors demonstrate "habits of integrative thinking," especially across the disciplines constituting their major.

##### SLO 2.1: Understand the various disciplines in major

Students understand the various disciplines constituting their major.

▼ **Measure:** Common Rubric  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 common rubric

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2014 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

##### Findings for Common Rubric

**Summary of Findings:** The course was first offered in Spring 2015. Findings will be available in the next cycle.

**Recommendations :**

**Reflections/Notes :**

##### SLO 2.2: Understand theoretical basis of interdisciplinarity

Students understand the theoretical basis of interdisciplinarity.

▼ **Measure:** Common Rubric  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 common rubric

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2014 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

##### Findings for Common Rubric

**Summary of Findings:** The course was first offered in Spring 2015. Findings will be available in the next cycle.

**Recommendations :**

**Reflections/Notes :**

##### SLO 2.3: Use different disciplines to explore and explain

Students use different disciplines in conjunction with one another to explore and explain intellectual problems.

▼ **Measure:** Final paper of project  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 final paper or project

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2014 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

**Findings** for Final paper of project

**Summary of Findings:** The course was first offered in Spring 2015. Findings will be available in the next cycle.

**Recommendations :**

**Reflections/Notes :**

▼ **Measure:** Reflection  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 reflection

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2014 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

**Findings** for Reflection

**Summary of Findings:** The course was first offered in Spring 2015. Findings will be available in the next cycle.

**Recommendations :**

**Reflections/Notes :**

**Overall Recommendations**

*No text specified*

**Overall Reflection**

*No text specified*

 **Action Plan**

 **Status Report**



## 2015-2016 Assessment Cycle

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### Assessment Plan

#### Outcomes and Measures

#### BA/BS in Multidisciplinary Studies Outcome Set

##### **Obj. 3: Transfer skills from one setting to another**

Multidisciplinary Studies majors demonstrate the ability to transfer skills from one setting to another.

##### **SLO 3.1: Acquire problem solving skills from different disc.**

Students acquire problem-solving skills from at least two different disciplines.

▼ **Measure:** Common Rubric  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 common rubric

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2015 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

##### **SLO 3.2: Assess problems or situations**

Students assess problems or situations to determine which skills may be useful in addressing them.

▼ **Measure:** Common Rubric  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 common rubric

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2015 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

##### **SLO 3.3: Apply variety of skills to address problems**

Students apply the variety of skills they have in addressing these problems or situations.

▼ **Measure:** Final paper of project  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 final paper or project

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2015 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

▼ **Measure:** Reflection  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 reflection

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2015 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

## Assessment Findings

### Finding per Measure

#### BA/BS in Multidisciplinary Studies Outcome Set

##### Obj. 3: Transfer skills from one setting to another

Multidisciplinary Studies majors demonstrate the ability to transfer skills from one setting to another.

##### SLO 3.1: Acquire problem solving skills from different disc.

Students acquire problem-solving skills from at least two different disciplines.

▼ **Measure:** Common Rubric  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 common rubric

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2015 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

##### Findings for Common Rubric

*No Findings Added*

##### SLO 3.2: Assess problems or situations

Students assess problems or situations to determine which skills may be useful in addressing them.

▼ **Measure:** Common Rubric  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 common rubric

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2015 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

##### Findings for Common Rubric

*No Findings Added*

##### SLO 3.3: Apply variety of skills to address problems

Students apply the variety of skills they have in addressing these problems or situations.

▼ **Measure:** Final paper of project  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 final paper or project

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2015 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

##### Findings for Final paper of project

*No Findings Added*

▼ **Measure:** Reflection  
Direct - Student Artifact

**Details/Description:** MST 401 reflection

**Target:**

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2015 and every 3 years subsequently

**Responsible Individual(s):** Course instructor

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**Findings for Reflection**

*No Findings Added*

**Overall Recommendations**

*No text specified*

**Overall Reflection**

*No text specified*

 **Action Plan**

 **Status Report**

## 2016-2017 Assessment Cycle

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📄 **Assessment Plan**

📄 **Assessment Findings**

📄 **Action Plan**

📄 **Status Report**

## 2017-2018 Assessment Cycle

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 **Assessment Plan**

 **Assessment Findings**

 **Action Plan**

 **Status Report**

## 2018-2019 Assessment Cycle

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 **Assessment Plan**

 **Assessment Findings**

 **Action Plan**

 **Status Report**

## 2019-2020 Assessment Cycle

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 **Assessment Plan**

 **Assessment Findings**

 **Action Plan**

 **Status Report**

# Appendix

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- A. **BA/BS in Multidisciplinary Studies Curriculum Map** (Curriculum Map)
  - B. **Multidisciplinary Studies Assessment Matrix 2012** (Adobe Acrobat Document)
  - C. **Multidisciplinary Studies Assessment Plan 2012** (Adobe Acrobat Document)
-

February 27, 2012

## Multidisciplinary Studies Student Based Outcomes Assessment Plan<sup>1</sup>

Adopted: February 27, 2012

### Preamble

The mission of the Multidisciplinary Studies major, housed within Interdisciplinary Programs, is to provide a high-quality educational experience for students at ISU whose intellectual and career interests are not served by the existing majors in the university. Our particular focus is to guide students in an interdisciplinary exploration of their interests, while challenging them to explore those interests deeply and systematically. A key part of this process is to nurture the fundamental skills of critical thinking, reading, and writing. We aim also to promote sustained interrogation of the complex world in which they live, as well as to promote greater participation in society and its improvement.

The faculty of the Multidisciplinary Studies major have created this plan for Assessment of Undergraduate Student Outcomes to measure our success in meeting the above goals, as well as discover areas of needed improvement, and to constantly assess changes which may be necessary as student, pedagogical, and epistemological goals evolve. Since each student can pursue a different specific set of courses to fulfill a major in Multidisciplinary Studies, some flexibility is built into the plan which follows. The objectives which follow draw on the assessment discussion in the 2004 report of the American Association of Colleges and Universities titled “Our Students’ Best Work: A Framework of Accountability Worthy of Our Mission,” (Washington, D.C.: American Association of College and Universities, 2004).

### Objectives<sup>2</sup>

- I. Multidisciplinary Studies majors are able to communicate effectively using the methods appropriate to their course of study, usually in writing.

Student Learning Outcome 1.1: Students understand material they read, hear, and see.

Student Learning Outcome 1.2: Students use proper techniques for the form of communication in which they are engaged.

Student Learning Outcome 1.3: Students persuade, inform, explain to, or perform for (as appropriate to their course of study) their audiences.

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<sup>1</sup> Approved by Harriet Hudson (Associate Dean) and Ruth Cain, February 8, 2012.

<sup>2</sup> All quoted material in the objectives is drawn from AACU “Our Students’ Best Work,” pp. 5-6.

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- II. Multidisciplinary Studies majors demonstrate “habits of integrative thinking,” especially across the disciplines constituting their major.

Student Learning Outcome 2.1: Students understand the various disciplines constituting their major.

Student Learning Outcome 2.2: Students understand the theoretical basis of interdisciplinarity.

Student Learning Outcome 2.3: Students use different disciplines in conjunction with one another to explore and explain intellectual problems.

- III. Multidisciplinary Studies majors demonstrate the ability to “transfer skills from one setting to another.”

Student Learning Outcome 3.1: Students acquire problem-solving skills from at least two different disciplines.

Student Learning Outcome 3.2: Students assess problems or situations to determine which skills may be useful in addressing them.

Student Learning Outcome 3.3: Students apply the variety of skills they have in addressing these problems or situations.

### Methodology

Given that each student in the MST major can pursue a unique program, with only the culminating experience (MST 401) as a common curricular experience for majors, most assessment takes place in the context of this course.

During the fall semester of the student’s last year, he or she will be enrolled in MST 401, the culminating experience for the major. The instructor of that course will keep a copy of the culminating assignment from MST 401 (usually a paper). The instructor of that course also will facilitate a self-reflection by each student regarding their experience with the major as a whole. This self-reflection will employ the student’s proposal to enter the major as well as some prompts by the instructor to encourage meaningful reflection.

Additionally, another member or members of the MST faculty will conduct exit interviews with students during their final semester at ISU.

The assessment documents then will be:

--The culminating assignment from MST 401.

February 27, 2012

--A self-reflection done as a constituent component of MST 401.

--The results of the exit interviews with each student.

#### Communication of Objectives:

The Assessment Plan in both narrative and template forms will be posted on the Multidisciplinary Studies website in the area which describes degree requirements.

A summary of the objectives and process will be included in the prefatory material in the Undergraduate Catalog for the Multidisciplinary Studies major.

#### Process for conducting assessment:

During each fall semester, MST faculty will review the collected material for all students who graduated during the previous academic year to gauge the success of each cohort according to the objectives established above, but also according to any additional criteria which the MST faculty deem appropriate. The variable nature of this major's curriculum means that it is important to preserve flexibility of assessment by allowing the addition of more criteria as needed.

Rubrics for each of the learning outcomes will guide MST faculty in rating student achievement according to whether they have exceeded expectations, met expectations, or failed to meet expectations for each learning outcome.

#### Use of data

These assessment will be collected in a useful format which reports overall attainment by cohort but preserves individual privacy of each student. These reports will be presented at a meeting of the MST faculty, providing guidance about the overall success and possible shortcomings of the major. These assessments will help MST faculty continue to evaluate the effectiveness of the major and may suggest areas for improvement or revision.

The data may be used to help evaluate students who are being considered for awards, but otherwise will not be used to evaluate individual students. The data will not be used to evaluate individual faculty.

The annual report will be made available to university administrators and NCATE officials. The findings will be made available to the general public as appropriate.

#### FERPA statement:

In recognition of the students' right to privacy as well as FERPA law, all student materials will be kept confidential.

**INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

**ASSESSMENT PLAN TEMPLATE FOR CURRICULUM PROPOSALS:**

A completed assessment plan must be submitted to Academic Affairs along with all program proposals (new and revised). The assessment plan will be reviewed as part of the curriculum proposal. The assessment plan must include the following elements:

- Program Mission Statement
- Educational Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes\*
- Curriculum Map\*
- Communication of Outcomes (a statement indicating how Student Learning Outcomes are communicated to students and other stakeholders)
- Three-Year Assessment Plan\*, including:
  - when each outcome will be measured,
  - how it will be measured,
  - the target or benchmark for student achievement in the aggregate, and
  - who is responsible for ensuring the assessment is implemented.

\*Information for these items may be entered in the following table. Repeat the table for each objective/learning outcome set. (An example of a completed form for one objective is attached.)

For curriculum change proposals: If there is a complete and current assessment plan for the program in TaskStream and the plan will not be effected by the proposed changes, a printout from TaskStream of the required elements may be submitted. If the proposed changes require modifications to the assessment plan, please use the table below to reflect the changes.

Questions concerning developing or modifying assessment plans or completing this form should be directed to the Assessment and Accreditation Coordinator.

**Program: Multidisciplinary Studies**

**Mission Statement:** The mission of the Multidisciplinary Studies major, housed within Interdisciplinary Programs, is to provide a high-quality educational experience for students at ISU whose intellectual and career interests are not served by the existing majors in the university. Our particular focus is to guide students in an interdisciplinary exploration of their interests, while challenging them to explore those interests deeply and systematically.

**Communication of Objectives:** The full Assessment Plan, in both narrative and template formats, will be posted on the Multidisciplinary Studies website. A summary of the Objectives and Process will be included with the prefatory material for Multidisciplinary Studies in the Undergraduate Catalog.

**Communication of Outcomes:** The completed rubrics will be used to write a qualitative and quantitative report, which will be presented at a faculty meeting.

| <b>Objective:</b>   |  |                             |                                |  |                              |
|---|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| <b>Student Learning Outcomes</b>  | <b>Courses/Educational Strategies</b><br>(indicate if the outcome is introduced [I], practiced [P], or reinforced [R]) | <b>Assessment Method(s)</b> | <b>Source(s) of Assessment</b> | <b>Time of Data Collection</b>           | <b>Person(s) Responsible</b> |
| 1.1 Students understand material they read, hear, and see.                                  | MST 401 (I, P, R)  | MST 401 common rubric       | MST 401                        | Fall 2013 and every 3 years subsequently | Course instructor            |
| 1.2 Students use proper techniques for the form of communication in which they are engaged. | MST 401 (I,P, R)   | MST 401 common rubric       | MST 401                        | Fall 2013 and every 3 years subsequently | Course instructor            |

|  |                   |  |         |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|--|---------|--|-------------------|
| 1.3 Students persuade, inform, explain to, or perform for (as appropriate to their course of study) their audiences. | MST 401 (I, P, R) | MST 401 final paper or project                           | MST 401 | Fall 2013 and every 3 years subsequently | Course instructor |
| 2.1 Students understand the various disciplines constituting their major.  | MST 401 (I, P, R) | MST 401 common rubric                                    | MST 401 | Fall 2014 and every 3 years subsequently | Course instructor |
| 2.2 Students understand the theoretical basis of interdisciplinarity   | MST 401 (I, P, R) | MST 401 common rubric                                    | MST 401 | Fall 2014 and every 3 years subsequently | Course instructor |
| 2.3 Students use different disciplines in conjunction with one another to explore and explain intellectual problems. | MST 401 (I, P, R) | MST 401 final project or paper<br><br>MST 401 reflection | MST 401 | Fall 2014 and every 3 years subsequently | Course instructor |
| 3.1 Students acquire problem-solving skills from at least two different disciplines.                                 | MST 401 (I, P, R) | MST 401 common rubric                                    | MST 401 | Fall 2015 and every 3 years subsequently | Course instructor |
| 3.2 Students assess problems or situations to determine which skills may be useful in addressing them.               | MST 401 (I, P, R) | MST 401 common rubric                                    | MST 401 | Fall 2015 and every 3 years subsequently | Course instructor |
| 3.3 Students apply the variety of skills they have in addressing these problems or situations.                       | MST 401 (I, P, R) | MST 401 final paper or project<br><br>MST 401 reflection | MST 401 | Fall 2015 and every 3 years subsequently | Course instructor |

