Program Outcomes Assessment

MA in Geography

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General Information (Program Outcomes Assessment)
Standing Requirements

**Mission Statement**
To offer Geography MA students advanced preparation for careers and research dealing with historical and contemporary environmental issues.

**Outcomes Library**

### MA in Geography Outcome Set

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>professional communication</th>
<th>Aquire professional communication proficiencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outcome Mapping</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Communication</td>
<td>No Mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>demonstrate professional communication proficiencies in core courses, thesis proposal defense, and public thesis defense, and presentations at professional meetings.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional Communities</th>
<th>Engage in and meaningfully contribute to diverse and complex communities and professional envrionments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outcome</td>
<td>Mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Communities</td>
<td>No Mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engage in and meaningfully contribute to diverse and complex communities and professional environments including team oriented field work and interaction with visiting scholars at department colloquium.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional Ethics</th>
<th>recognize and act on professional and ethical challenges that arise in the field or discipline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outcome</td>
<td>Mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Ethics</td>
<td>No Mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>recognize and act on professional and ethical challenges that arise in the field or discipline by completing IRB training and mentoring by faculty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline Knowledge</th>
<th>Achieve mastery of the knowledge required in their discipline or profession</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outcome</td>
<td>Mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discipline Knowledge</td>
<td>No Mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Achieve mastery of the knowledge required in their discipline or profession through program core curriculum by completing papers, exams, and thesis projects.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Discipline Skills**
Achieve mastery of the skills (including using appropriate tools) required in their discipline or profession

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Mapping</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discipline Skills</td>
<td>No Mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Achieve mastery of the skills (including using appropriate tools) required in their discipline or profession in Quatitative Methods and Advanced Cartography through research papers, exercises, and exams.</td>
<td>No Mapping</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Curriculum Map**

**Active Curriculum Maps**

- **Geography MA** (See appendix)
  - Alignment Set: MA in Geography Outcome Set
  - Created: 05/07/2012 12:12:12 pm CST
  - Last Modified: 05/14/2012 11:00:41 am CST

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**Communication of Outcomes**

Learning outcomes will be posted on the department of Earth and Environmental Systems web site as well as being posted on department bulletin boards in the Science building hallway.
Archive (This area is to be used for archiving pre-TaskStream assessment data and for current documents.)
### 2010-2011 Assessment Cycle

#### Assessment Plan

| Outcomes and Measures | MA in Geography Outcome Set | professional communication | Aquire professional communication proficiencies | Professional Communication | demonstrate professional communication proficiencies in core courses, thesis proposal defense, and public thesis defense, and presentations at professional meetings. | No measures specified |

#### Assessment Findings

| Finding per Measure | MA in Geography Outcome Set | professional communication | Aquire professional communication proficiencies | Professional Communication | demonstrate professional communication proficiencies in core courses, thesis proposal defense, and public thesis defense, and presentations at professional meetings. | No measures specified |

#### Overall Recommendations

- No text specified

#### Overall Reflection

- No text specified
Assessment Plan

Outcomes and Measures

MA in Geography Outcome Set

professional communication
Aquire professional communication proficiencies

Profession Communication
demonstrate professional
communication proficiencies in core
courses, thesis proposal
defense, and public thesis
defense, and presentations
at professional meetings.

Measure: Professional Presentations
Direct - Other

Details/Description: presentations at regional or national professional meetings
Target: 60% of students in MA program
Implementation Plan (timeline):
Responsible Individual(s): C. R. Stafford

Assessment Findings

Finding per Measure

MA in Geography Outcome Set

professional communication
Aquire professional communication proficiencies

Profession Communication
demonstrate professional
communication proficiencies in core
courses, thesis proposal
defense, and public thesis
defense, and presentations
at professional meetings.

Measure: Professional Presentations
Direct - Other

Details/Description: presentations at regional or national professional meetings
Target: 60% of students in MA program
Implementation Plan (timeline):
Responsible Individual(s): C. R. Stafford

Findings for Professional Presentations

Summary of Findings: two of six students presented at national or regional professional meetings from 2010-2012. A total of three presentations were made.
Results: Target Achievement: Not Met
Recommendations: advisors should encourage students to present at professional meetings.
Reflections/Notes:
Substantiating Evidence:
MA_Presentations.pdf (Adobe Acrobat Document) (See appendix)
**Overall Recommendations**

MA advisors should strongly encourage their students to present research results at professional meetings or in department speaker series.

**Overall Reflection**

*No text specified*

**Action Plan**

**Actions**

**Professional Communication**

**Outcome**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional Meetings</th>
<th>Action: Professional Meetings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>make presentations at regional or national meetings.</td>
<td>This Action is associated with the following Findings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No supporting Findings have been linked to this Action.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Action Details: inform students and their advisors that presentations at national/regional meetings is an essential part of scholarly research and professional development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Implementation Plan (timeline): Spring 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Key/Responsible Personnel: T. Rathburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Measures: percent of students that present at national/regional meetings should be greater than 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Resource Allocations:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Priority: Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Status Report**

**Action Statuses**

**Professional Communication**

**Outcome**

<table>
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<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>
Measures: percent of students that present at national/regional meetings should be greater than 60%

Resource Allocations:
Priority: Medium

Status for Professional Meetings
No Status Added

Status Summary
No new data available at this time. We will collect data on presentations in Spring 2014

Summary of Next Steps
Outcome associated with Ethics will be evaluated in 2012-13 assessment cycle
Professional Ethics
Outcome

**Professional Ethics**
recognize ethical challenges that arise by taking ENVI 611 or IRB training.

**Measure:** Professional Ethics
Direct - Exam

**Details/Description:** Successfully complete (grade of B or better) ENVI 611 (Research Design) or complete CITI on-line ethics training in ENVI 733.

**Target:** 100 percent completion of course or CITI training.

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** by May 2013

**Responsible Individual(s):** T. Rathburn

---

**Findings for Professional Ethics**

**Summary of Findings:** 6 of 6 MA students completed CITI ethics training in ENVI 733 spring 2013.

**Results:** Target Achievement: Met

**Recommendations:** continue to have MA students complete CITI ethics training.

**Reflections/Notes:** CITI completion report on file at dept.

**These Findings are associated with the following Actions:**

**Professional Ethics**
( Action Plan; 2012-2013 Assessment Cycle)
Overall Recommendations

CITI online ethics training is an effective way to expose MA students to ethics issues in the conduct of research and specifically human subject research.

Overall Reflection

No text specified

Action Plan

Actions

Professional Ethics

Outcome

Professional Ethics recognize ethical challenges that arise in the by taking ENVI 611 or IRB training.

Action: Professional Ethics

This Action is associated with the following Findings

Findings for Professional Ethics
(Assessment Plan and Assessment Findings; 2012-2013 Assessment Cycle)

Summary of Findings: 6 of 6 MA students completed CITI ethics training in ENVI 733 spring 2013.

Action Details: MA students should complete CITI ethics training in core or elective graduate courses.

Implementation Plan (timeline): Spring 2014

Key/Responsible Personnel: T. Rathburn

Measures: completion reports for CITI ethics training.

Resource Allocations:

Priority: Medium

Status Report

Action Statuses

Professional Ethics

Outcome

Professional Ethics recognize ethical challenges that arise in the by taking ENVI 611 or IRB training.

Action: Professional Ethics

Action Details: MA students should complete CITI ethics training in core or elective graduate courses.
Implementation Plan (timeline): Spring 2014

Key/Responsible Personnel: T. Rathburn

Measures: completion reports for CITI ethics training.

Resource Allocations:

Priority: Medium

Status for Professional Ethics

Current Status: Completed

Resource Allocation(s) Status:

Next Steps/Additional Information:

Status Summary

no new data available.

Summary of Next Steps

next student learning outcome to be selected summer 2013
2013-2014 Assessment Cycle

Assessment Plan

Outcomes and Measures

MA in Geography Outcome Set

Discipline Skills
Achieve mastery of the skills (including using appropriate tools) required in their discipline or profession

Discipline Skills
Achieve mastery of the skills (including using appropriate tools) required in their discipline or profession in Quantitative Methods and Advanced Cartography through research papers, exercises, and exams.

Measure: Survey
Indirect - Survey

Details/Description: Survey of students that graduated from program (questions that targeted knowledge acquired).
Target: respondents indicate that discipline knowledge was mastered and prepared them for their career
Implementation Plan (timeline): Fall 2013
Responsible Individual(s): T. Rathburn, C. Stafford
Supporting Attachments:
Fall 2013 Graduate Survey SkillsQuestions.pdf (Adobe Acrobat Document) (See appendix)

Assessment Findings

Finding per Measure

MA in Geography Outcome Set

Discipline Skills
Achieve mastery of the skills (including using appropriate tools) required in their discipline or profession

Discipline Skills
Achieve mastery of the skills (including using appropriate tools) required in their discipline or profession in Quantitative Methods and Advanced Cartography through research papers, exercises, and exams.

Measure: Survey
Indirect - Survey

Details/Description: Survey of students that graduated from program (questions that targeted knowledge acquired).
Target: respondents indicate that discipline knowledge was mastered and prepared them for their career
Implementation Plan (timeline): Fall 2013
Responsible Individual(s): T. Rathburn, C. Stafford
Supporting Attachments:
Fall 2013 Graduate Survey SkillsQuestions.pdf (Adobe Acrobat Document) (See appendix)

Findings for Survey

Summary of Findings: survey indicates that students acquired discipline based knowledge that
allowed them to be successful in their careers.

**Results:** Target Achievement: Met

**Recommendations:** maintain core course as currently offered.

**Reflections/Notes:** possibly focus on human geography in future

### Overall Recommendations

findings indicate that current core courses are adequate.

### Overall Reflection

core program is providing required skills for students to be successful in their geography careers.

### Action Plan

#### Actions

**MA in Geography Outcome Set**

**Discipline Skills**

Achieve mastery of the skills (including using appropriate tools) required in their discipline or profession

**Discipline Skills**

Achieve mastery of the skills (including using appropriate tools) required in their discipline or profession in Quantitative Methods and Advanced Cartography through research papers, exercises, and exams.

**Action: Skills**

This Action is associated with the following Findings

No supporting Findings have been linked to this Action.

**Action Details:** assess discipline skills of students

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2014

**Key/Responsible Personnel:** T. Rathburn, C. Stafford

**Measures:** outcomes of statistics, GIS and other sill courses taken by students.

**Resource Allocations:**

**Priority:** Medium

### Status Report

#### Action Statuses

**MA in Geography Outcome Set**

**Discipline Skills**

Achieve mastery of the skills (including using appropriate tools) required in their discipline or profession

**Discipline Skills**

Achieve mastery of the skills (including using appropriate tools) required in their discipline or profession in Quantitative Methods and Advanced Cartography through research papers, exercises, and exams.

**Action: Skills**

This Action is associated with the following Findings

No supporting Findings have been linked to this Action.

**Action Details:** assess discipline skills of students

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** Fall 2014

**Key/Responsible Personnel:** T. Rathburn, C. Stafford

**Measures:** outcomes of statistics, GIS and other sill courses taken by students.

**Resource Allocations:**

**Priority:** Medium
Action Details: assess discipline skills of students

Implementation Plan (timeline): Fall 2014

Key/Responsible Personnel: T. Rathburn, C. Stafford

Measures: outcomes of statistics, GIS and other skills courses taken by students.

Resource Allocations:

Priority: Medium

Status for Skills

No Status Added

Status Summary

not started

Summary of Next Steps

collected data
### Assessment Plan

#### Outcomes and Measures

**MA in Geography Outcome Set**

**professional communication**
Aquire professional communication proficiencies

<table>
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<th>Measure: Profession Presentations</th>
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<td>Direct - Student Artifact</td>
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**Details/Description:** Present at regional or national professional meeting.

**Target:** 60% of MA students present at regional or national meetings

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** August 2015

**Responsible Individual(s):** T. Rathburn

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### Assessment Findings

#### Finding per Measure

**MA in Geography Outcome Set**

**professional communication**
Aquire professional communication proficiencies

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**Details/Description:** Present at regional or national professional meeting.

**Target:** 60% of MA students present at regional or national meetings

**Implementation Plan (timeline):** August 2015

**Responsible Individual(s):** T. Rathburn

#### Findings for Profession Presentations

**Summary of Findings:** Of the four students in the MA program in the last two years no one presented at a national or regional meeting.

**Results:** Target Achievement: Not Met

**Recommendations:** Advisers should encourage MA students to make presentations at national and/or regional geography meetings.

**Reflections/Notes:**
Overall Recommendations

graduate advisers in MA program should encourage students to present research findings at either national and/or regional geography meetings.

Overall Reflection

No text specified

Action Plan

Status Report
Assessment Plan

Outcomes and Measures

MA in Geography Outcome Set

Discipline Skills
Achieve mastery of the skills (including using appropriate tools) required in their discipline or profession

Measure: Quantitative Skills
Direct - Student Artifact

Details/Description: successful completion of statistics, GIS and/or remote sensing graduate level course.
Target: 90% successful completion of quantitative/tool courses by MA graduate students.
Implementation Plan (timeline): collect and analyze data by May 2016
Responsible Individual(s): EES Graduate Committee Chair

Assessment Findings

Finding per Measure

MA in Geography Outcome Set

Discipline Skills
Achieve mastery of the skills (including using appropriate tools) required in their discipline or profession

Measure: Quantitative Skills
Direct - Student Artifact

Details/Description: successful completion of statistics, GIS and/or remote sensing graduate level course.
Target: 90% successful completion of quantitative/tool courses by MA graduate students.
Implementation Plan (timeline): collect and analyze data by May 2016
Responsible Individual(s): EES Graduate Committee Chair

Findings for Quantitative Skills

No Findings Added

Overall Recommendations

No text specified

Overall Reflection
No text specified

Action Plan

Status Report
Program Outcomes Assessment
MA in Geography

2016-2017 Assessment Cycle

Assessment Plan

Assessment Findings

Action Plan

Status Report
2017-2018 Assessment Cycle

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- Assessment Findings
- Action Plan
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2018-2019 Assessment Cycle

- Assessment Plan
- Assessment Findings
- Action Plan
- Status Report
2019-2020 Assessment Cycle

- Assessment Plan
- Assessment Findings
- Action Plan
- Status Report
Appendix

A. Geography MA (Curriculum Map)
B. MA_Presentations.pdf (Adobe Acrobat Document)
C. Fall 2013 Graduate Survey SkillsQuestions.pdf (Adobe Acrobat Document)