

3rd Learning Objective/Intended Outcome: Students will have excellent oral and written communication skills

Assessment Plan	Implementation	Assessment Criteria	Outcomes Data	Decisions
Student persuasively demonstrates significance, originality, and plausibility of the research/dissertation project.	Oral and written (PhD) or written only (MS) prospectus presentation presenting research topic.	Advisor is surveyed after thesis/dissertation prospectus defense. Committee approves/disapproves prospectus.	All students successfully completed their prospectus defense (written and/or oral).	No change required
Student writes a thesis/dissertation that demonstrates mastery of the field. Thesis demonstrates the identification of and solution to research problems.	Students provide written and oral presentations of their research findings during defense.	Advisor is surveyed after thesis/dissertation final defense. Committee approves/disapproves defense.	All students successfully completed their prospectus defense (written and/or oral).	No change required
Students required to author/co-author articles for conference or in refereed and/or well respected journals.	PhD students required to produce and submit one paper at a time of degree completion. MS students are encouraged to give a professional presentation with an abstract.	At least one first authored peer-reviewed publication submitted for a PhD student and at least one conference abstract for an MS student.	100% met criteria for PhD students.	No change required for the PhD program. We did not have complete data for the MS program so we will add this as an exit question.