

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS
Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan: PhD Oceanography
 College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences
 October 2024

CFOS MISSION: The College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences supports the needs of Alaska and its communities, the nation and the international community through research and training the next generation of scholars and leaders in the wise use of Alaskan and Arctic aquatic natural resources.

CFOS VISION: As one of the largest combined research and academic organizations in the University of Alaska system, and one of the most diverse colleges in both geographic reach and academic mission, we seek to be a:

- World-class ocean and inland aquatic research and educational organization, recognized as such by peers in the academic community and funding agencies.
- Primary source of knowledge, operational expertise, and basic and applied research to manage freshwater, estuarine and ocean resources in Alaska, including the Arctic.
- Source of well-trained and highly motivated graduates to staff organizations and agencies, in particular those in Alaska responsible for management of Alaskan and Arctic waters and their renewable resources.
- College of choice for faculty and students with interest in high latitude Arctic and sub-Arctic waters and their renewable resources.
- Trusted steward of state and national research and educational facilities.

Objectives/OutcomesIntended	Assessment Criteria and Procedures	Implementation (what, when, who)
Graduates will be subject experts	Students satisfactorily complete: core coursework, comprehensive exams, the defense of their proposed dissertation, and the defense of their completed dissertation. Goal: Graduates demonstrate broad knowledge of core oceanographic principles, and expert knowledge of their research topic. Graduates use this knowledge to summarize and interpret results from their particular research topic, and explain its significance.	<u>Year 1-2:</u> Evaluation of core course performance by faculty teaching each course (OCN 620, 630, 650, 660, 633 (elective)) <u>Annually:</u> Evaluation of progress by advisory committee <u>Year 2-3:</u> Evaluation of thesis proposal and comprehensive exam by thesis committee <u>Final Year:</u> Evaluation of dissertation defense by advisory committee and oceanography faculty. Evaluation of dissertation by advisory committee, Department Head and Dean.
Graduates will attain experience in gathering data in the field and will gain expertise in field methods for their research area.	All students conduct field work and show satisfactory participation in field activities Goal: Graduates attain fieldwork experience and gain expertise in field methods conducting work as part of their dissertation or as part of a field course.	Fieldwork opportunities are routine components of the Oceanography Graduate Program. <u>Year 1-5:</u> Evaluation of fieldwork-related courses by faculty teaching each course (OCN 699, 625, or independent studies) <u>Annually:</u> Evaluation of field participation outcomes and fieldwork expertise by advisory committee
Graduates will be prepared to work as university-level educators or professional scientists, and are able to contribute to the body of scientific knowledge within an oceanographic discipline.	Students attain professional science communication skills to be able to produce work that is of sufficient quality to present at international conferences, to submit as reports to agencies or as manuscripts to peer-reviewed journals. Students serve as effective teaching assistants Goal: Graduates execute publishable research, communicate at a level commensurate with being a university-level educator or professional scientist, and gain teaching experience.	Evaluations of oral presentations and writing during courses by the faculty teaching each course. (OCN 620, 630, 650, 660, 699, and OCN electives). Evaluation of performance during TASHips by the faculty teaching the course. <u>Year 2-5:</u> Presentation of research at least two conferences with international participation (e.g., Ocean Sciences Meeting). Publication of at least one dissertation chapter in the peer-reviewed literature, with a second chapter either published, in review or near submission. <u>Annually:</u> Evaluation of progress by committee <u>Final Year:</u> Evaluation of dissertation defense by advisory committee and oceanography faculty. Evaluation of dissertation with at least 3 publishable chapters by advisory committee, Department Head and Dean.

Submitted by:

