

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS
Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan
M.S. Fisheries Science
 College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences
 DRAFT REVISION AY25/26

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose	Intended Objectives/Outcomes	Assessment Criteria and Procedures	Implementation (what, when, who)
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 in terms of personnel and budget, 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.	1. Communication 1a. Written: Students should be able to develop a written proposal and a thesis using clear logic, language, and convincing arguments. 1b. Oral: Students should be able to deliver a professional oral presentation and respond to questions with confidence.	<u>Instruments:</u> Written thesis proposal; written M.S. thesis. <u>Min. Standard:</u> 80% of students will write a passing thesis proposal; 80% of graduating students will write at the level of a competent MS level fisheries professional. <u>Instruments:</u> Oral proposal defense; oral thesis defense. <u>Min. Standards:</u> Within 2 years, 80% of students successfully defend proposal. 80% will present thesis at the level of a competent fisheries professional.	Advisory Committee will rate students on scale of 1-4 in terms of writing ability at the thesis defense. Department Head or designee will review thesis using similar criteria. Advisory Committee will grade proposal defense, including written and oral components, as pass, conditional pass, or fail. Advisory Committee will rate students on scale of 1-4 in terms of clarity of verbal presentation at the thesis defense. Academics Office will track success rates and scores.
	2. Technical Knowledge Students should obtain mastery of core knowledge of fishery science in 3 areas: • Biology and Ecology of Fishery Resources • Quantitative Population Dynamics • Human Dimensions	<u>Instruments:</u> Course work; thesis proposal defense; thesis. <u>Min. Standard:</u> Students will receive credit for one course in each of the three core areas; 80% will demonstrate technical knowledge of thesis subject at the level of a competent M.S. level fisheries professional; 80% will successfully pass their proposal defense thus demonstrating mastery of foundational technical knowledge; 80% will demonstrate familiarity with relevant literature at the level of a competent M.S. level fisheries professional.	Review of student transcripts by department chair or designee. Advisory Committee will rate technical knowledge on scale of 1-4 at thesis defense. Advisory Committee will grade proposal defense as pass, conditional pass, or fail, based in part on ability to logically think through arguments. Advisory Committee will rate familiarity with relevant literature on scale of 1-4 at the thesis defense. Academics Office will track success rates and scores.
	3. Problem Solving 3a. Logical Thinking: Students should be able to identify assumptions, evaluate	<u>Instruments:</u> Proposal defense; thesis.	Advisory Committee will rate logical thinking on scale of 1-4 at the thesis defense.

Submitted by: Franz Mueter, Department Chair, Fisheries

-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 waters off Alaska, including the Arctic, and their renewable resources. -Trusted steward of state and national research and educational facilities.	arguments and draw conclusions. 3b. Analytical: Demonstrate competence in data collection, analysis, interpretation and reporting.	<u>Min. Standard:</u> 80% of students will pass their thesis proposal defense; 80% will demonstrate ability to think logically at the level of a competent fisheries professional. <u>Instruments:</u> Thesis defense. <u>Min. Standards:</u> 80% will demonstrate their ability to conduct analyses, present and explain their data and analytical methods, and explain any relevant assumptions at the level of a competent M.S. level fisheries professional.	Advisory Committee will grade proposal defense as pass, conditional pass, or fail, based in part on ability to logically think through arguments. Advisory Committee will rate quantitative ability on scale of 1-4 at the thesis defense. Academics Office will track success rates and scores.
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