Degree Program Assessment Plan

Degree Program - CASNR - Food Science (MS)

Disciplinary Accrediting Body: none
CIP Code: 01.1001.00
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Program Purpose Statement: The College of Agriculture and Science and Natural Resources is dedicated to providing programs of excellence in teaching, research and outreach. These educational programs are designed to prepare the student for the dynamic agricultural and renewable natural resources industry- an industry that encompasses five closely related segments: (1) producing agricultural products; (2) supplying agricultural chemical, feed, seed, and other production resources; (3) processing, storing, distributing, and other marketing functions for agricultural products; (4) planning and managing programs for renewable natural resources; and (5) providing technical assistance financing, services, education, research, and communications in all sectors of the food, feed, fiber, and natural resource complex.

Student Learning Outcome: Knowledge of Food Science

Students will demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of food science.

Outcome Status: Active
Outcome Type: Student Learning
Start Date: 08/24/2015

Assessment Methods

Master’s Comprehensive Exam - Master’s Comprehensive Exam (thesis and non-thesis degrees) (Active)

Criterion: At least 85% of graduating FDSC-MS students (thesis or non-thesis) will pass their final thesis defense or comprehensive final exam.
Schedule: Evaluated at the end of the summer semesters

Performance - Course grades (Active)

Criterion: At least 90% of graduating FDSC students will have a 3.25 or higher Texas Tech University G.P.A. for their MS course work.
Schedule: Evaluated at the end of the summer

Student Learning Outcome: Critical Thinking Skills

Students will further develop critical thinking skills.

Outcome Status: Active
Outcome Type: Student Learning
Start Date: 08/24/2015
### Assessment Methods

**Field Placement/Internship - Critique by advisor** (Active)

**Criterion:** At least 85% of all students will receive a score of 1 (outstanding) or 2 (good) by their internship, research, or activity advisor in the areas of professionalism, leadership, work ethic, responsibility, communication skills, problem-solving, and team work.

**Schedule:** Evaluated at the end of the summer semester

**Thesis - M.S. Thesis** (Active)

**Criterion:** At least 85% of students entering the MS thesis program will complete a thesis research project and thesis for MS thesis degree that is approved by their advisory committee.

**Schedule:** Evaluated after the summer semester

### Student Learning Outcome: Preparation for career

Students will engage in experiential learning activities and demonstrate skills to prepare them for future employment in industry or for further graduate education.

**Outcome Status:** Active

**Start Date:** 08/24/2015

**Assessment Methods**

**Field Placement/Internship - Advisor evaluation (MS Non-Thesis)** (Active)

**Criterion:** At least 85% of all students will receive a score of 1 (outstanding) or 2 (good) by their internship, research, or activity advisor in the areas of professionalism, leadership, work ethic, responsibility, communication skills, problem-solving, and team work.

**Schedule:** Evaluated after every summer semester

**Performance - Peer evaluated research (M.S. Thesis)** (Active)

**Criterion:** At least 75% of MS thesis students will present one presentation or poster at a regional or national scientific meeting and submit for publication a peer-reviewed manuscript as first or second author within one year of graduating.

**Schedule:** Evaluated after every summer semester

**Student Exit Survey - Answers to specific questions on the exit survey** (Active)

**Criterion:** At least 85% of MS students have participated in at least two significant experiential learning activities during their college career exclusive of their internship, research project or thesis project.

**Schedule:** Evaluated after every summer semester