

Assessment: Assessment Plan

Degree Program - AS - Physics (PHD)

CIP Code: 40.0801.00

Next Accrediting Agency Review: 14-15

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Modality: Face-to-Face

Student Learning Outcome: Employability

PhD graduates will predominantly take jobs after graduation for which skills acquired during the PhD are important.

Outcome Status: Active

Outcome Type: Student Learning

Assessment Methods

Employment - Tracking student employment and/or enrollment status after graduation (Active)

Criterion: Within one year from graduation, 80% of the students are employed in jobs normally occupied by PhDs

Student Learning Outcome: High-Quality PhD theses

A substantial fraction of PhD research is published in peer-reviewed scientific journals and/or presented at conferences and workshops

Outcome Status: Active

Outcome Type: Student Learning

Assessment Methods

Dissertation - Tracking of publication and presentation history of students defending their dissertations (Active)

Criterion: For 80% of PhDs granted, thesis research should result in at least two publications and one presentation at a major conference for the student's scientific field

Student Learning Outcome: Rapid Progression to Thesis Research

Students will pass the Prelim exam within 2 years of matriculation into the PhD program. Students will pass their thesis proposals within 2 years of both passing the Prelim exam and completing their Master's level coursework.

Outcome Status: Active

Outcome Type: Student Learning

Start Date: 08/01/2017

Assessment Methods

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Exam - The Graduate Advisor and the Academic Advisor will be responsible for tracking the success rate of doctoral students taking the Prelim exam. (Active)

Criterion: 60% of doctoral students passing the Prelim within 2 years of matriculation into the PhD program will be considered a successful outcome

Qualifying Exam - The Qualifying Exam is passed within 2 years of completing the Prelim exam and the master-level courses (Active)

Criterion: 90% of thesis proposals defended within 2 years

Student Learning Outcome: Teaching Proficiency

PhD students employed as TAs and GPTIs become proficient in teaching physics and/or astronomy

Outcome Status: Active

Outcome Type: Student Learning

Start Date: 01/16/2019

Assessment Methods

Survey - Student - Analysis of TA and GPTI student evaluations (Active)

Criterion: Less than 25% TAs and GPTIs in the PhD program should have the average score below 3.5 for the student survey question asking whether the instructor was an effective teacher