

ASSESSMENT REPORT 2014-2015

Special Education Graduate
(Instructional Degree Program)

M.A.
(Degree Level)

Program Mission:

The School of Education at NMHU carries forward a long-standing tradition of teacher education that dates back to 1893. We are committed to providing experiences and knowledge to students seeking a degree or licensure in education. The School of Education also promotes continuous personal and professional scholarly development activities and graduate work to achieve lifelong learning. We subscribe to the philosophy that views optimal living as a function of the personal ability to pursue a meaningful life in work, leisure and home, while respecting, tolerating and valuing all people.

Special Education Mission and Vision

The NMHU Special Education Department prepares candidates to work successfully with diverse individuals with exceptional needs by applying evidence-based practices in educational and work settings.

Vision

The NMHU Special Education Department will develop highly qualified special education professionals who make a positive difference in the lives of students with exceptionalities and their families.

Student Learning Outcome 1:

Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 1

- Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 1:

Assessment material. MA written comprehensive exam. Criterion for success. $\geq 70\%$

Summary of Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	23	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	23	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome 1:

Assessment material. MA orals rating form. Criterion for success. ≤ 3 on "Command of Subject Matter"

Summary of Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	21	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	2
Total Number of Students Assessed:	23	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	91.3%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 1: The data show that 100% of the program completers met the criterion for the first means of assessment (a score of greater than or equal to 70% on the written comprehensive exam) while 91.3% met the criterion on the second means of assessment ("Command of Subject Matter" from the MA orals rating form), an improvement from 2013/2014. Overall, the majority of program completers demonstrated mastery of content knowledge.

Student Learning Outcome 2:

Effective Communication Skills

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 2

- Effective Communication Skills

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 2:

Assessment material. Gned 610 literature review rubric score. Criterion for success. \geq

Summary of Data

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:		Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	
Total Number of Students Assessed:		Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	%

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome 2:

Assessment material. MA orals rating form. Criterion for success. ≤ 3 on "Command of English"

Summary of Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	23	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	23	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 2: One hundred percent of the program completers met the criterion on "Command of English" from the orals rating form, showing that these students demonstrated mastery of effective communication skills. Data were not yet available for the first means of assessment. Special Education faculty are considering raising the criterion for the second means of assessment, and discussed the need to let instructors of gned 610 (Educational Research Interpretation) know early each semester that the literature grade is needed for outcomes assessment.

Student Learning Outcome 3:

Critical and Reflective Thinking Skills

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 3

- Critical and Reflective Thinking Skills

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 3:

Assessment material. Masters orals rating form. Criterion for success. ≤ 3 on “Application of subject matter to solution of problems”

Summary of Data

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	23	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	23	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome 3:

Assessment Material. Masters orals rating form. Criterion for success. ≤ 3 on “Use of relevant factors in arriving at conclusions”

Summary of Data

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	21	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	2
Total Number of Students Assessed:	23	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	91.3%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 3: One hundred percent of the program completers met the criterion for the first means of assessment (“Application of subject matter to the solution of problems” from the MA orals rating form) and 91.3% met the criterion for the second means of assessment (“Use of relevant factors in arriving at conclusions” from the MA orals rating form). Together, these two assessments indicate that the majority of students demonstrated mastery of critical and reflective thinking skills.

Student Learning Outcome 4:

Effective Use of Technology

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 4

- Effective Use of Technology

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 4:

Assessment material. Masters orals rating for. Criterion for success. ≤ 3 on "PowerPoint rating"

Summary of Data

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:		Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	
Total Number of Students Assessed:		Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	%

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome 4:

Assessment material. GNED 605 grade. Criterion for success. "B" or higher in gned 605

Summary of Data

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	20	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	1
Total Number of Students Assessed:	21	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	95.2%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 4: Ninety-five percent of the program completers met the criterion for the second means of assessment (a "B" or higher in gned 605, Statistics for Educators, which requires the use of statistics software), which shows that the majority demonstrated mastery of use of technology. Data were not available on the first means of assessment, a rating on the PowerPoint presentation that candidates give during their MA oral exam. This item is being added to the MA orals

rating form starting in 2015/2016.