

ASSESSMENT REPORT 2014-2015

Psychology Graduate
(Instructional Degree Program)

M.S.
(Degree Level)

Program Mission:

It is the mission of the master's program in psychology at NMHU to train master level psychologists who can utilize critical thinking skills, demonstrate an understanding of the scientific method, and apply their knowledge of the diverse fields of psychology to their work as teachers, researchers, or practitioners. The program is designed to prepare students for either work as master level clinicians or continued study in psychology at the doctoral level. This mission is achieved through a high level of professor-to-student interaction, ample opportunities for research and practical experience, and exposure to a multicultural community setting.

Student Learning Outcome 1:

Develop hypotheses based on a body of research, and design and implement a research methodology to test those hypotheses and present the results in both written and oral form.

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 1

- Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills
- Effective Communication Skills
- Critical and Reflective Thinking Skills
- Effective Use of Technology

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 1:

Grades from the Psychology 602, Behavioral Research Methods final project will be used for this assessment. Successful completion of this outcome will be indicated by at least 90% of students will receiving a B or above on this project.

Summary of Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	6	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	1
Total Number of Students Assessed:	7	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	85.7%

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome 1:

Composite scores from the midterm and final exams in Psychology 601, Data Analysis and Statistics will be used for this assessment. Successful completion of this outcome will be indicated by at least 90% of students receiving a B or above on this composite score.

Summary of Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	7	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	1
Total Number of Students Assessed:	8	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	87.5%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 1:

Results suggest that there is room for improvement on this outcome since the program fell slightly short of its target on both outcomes. One change that will be implemented will be increasing the coverage of SPSS in our undergraduate statistics course in order to better prepare our own baccalaureate degree recipients who choose to go on to graduate programs.

Student Learning Outcome 2:

Prepare students to be M.S. level counselors or doctoral candidates in other graduate institutions

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 2

- Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills
- Effective Communication Skills
- Critical and Reflective Thinking Skills

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 2:

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research conducts an annual survey of alumni who received their degrees three years prior to the year the survey is administered. The survey includes a question regarding employment status. Successful completion of this outcome will be indicated by at least 80% of our alumni demonstrating employment or graduate studies in some area of psychology.

Summary of Data

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	6	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	6	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome 2:

For those students who take a state exam to become a licensed counselor, we expect a 90% rate of passing. We will obtain this information from the self-report of our alumni.

Summary of Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	9	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	9	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	%

Third Means of Assessment for Outcome 2:

Grades from the final paper in Psychology 671, Advanced Psychopathology will be used for this assessment. Successful completion of this outcome will be indicated by at least 90% of students receiving a B or above on this paper.

Summary of Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	6	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	2
Total Number of Students Assessed:	8	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	75%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 2:

While two of our measures for this outcome were above our target for success, the last measure was below the target.

Student Learning Outcome 3:

Adopt a high standard for ethical behavior and work performance.

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 3

- Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills
- Effective Communication Skills
- Critical and Reflective Thinking Skills

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 3:

Each year the department will compile data from the “Faculty Review of Graduate Students”. This form is filled out at the end of the first two semesters of graduate work. It reflects a consensus opinion of the psychology faculty regarding the student’s performance. Successful completion of this outcome will be indicated by 90% of students receiving at least a 4 out of 5 on the items “Overall job performance” and “Professionalism” at the end of their second semester in the program.

Summary of Data

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	6	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	2
Total Number of Students Assessed:	8	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	75%

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome 3:

Each year the department will compile data from the Field Supervisors’ review of practicum students placed in that year. This is a qualitative review of practicum student performance. Final evaluation of the semester. Successful completion of this outcome will be indicated by at least 75% of practicum students receiving ratings indicating that their performance was considered above average by their supervisors and with no students receiving ratings indicating that their performance was below average or worse.

Summary of Data

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	7	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	7	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Third Means of Assessment for Outcome 3:

The final grade in Psychology 651, Professional Ethics and Issues will be used for this assessment. Successful completion of this outcome will be indicated by at least 95% of students receiving a final grade of 90% or better.

Summary of Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	7	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	2
Total Number of Students	9	Percent of Students Meeting	77.8%

Assessed:		Criterion:	
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Interpretation of Results for Outcome 3:

Results suggest that we met 2/3 of the goals of the means of assessments. Students who did not meet this criterion scored just under the criterion (obtained high B's in the course); in addition, because of the small number of students in the class, some variability in the ability to meet the high standard (95% of students earning an A) is expected.

Student Learning Outcome 4:

Apply knowledge of cross-cultural differences to the understanding and practice of psychology.

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 4

- Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills
- Effective Communication Skills
- Critical and Reflective Thinking Skills

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 4:

Each year the department will compile data from the Field Supervisors' review of practicum students placed in that year. This is a qualitative review of practicum student performance. Successful completion of this outcome will be indicated by at least 75% of practicum students receiving comments indicating that their practicum involved work with diverse populations and that they performed well in these settings.

Summary of Data

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	6	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	6	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome 4:

The final grade in Psychology 677, Multicultural Psychotherapy will be used for this assessment. Successful completion of this outcome will be indicated by at least 90% of students receiving a final grade of 90% or better.

Summary of Data

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	6	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	6	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 4:

The results suggest we were successful in meeting our goals of having students successfully apply knowledge of cross-cultural differences to the understanding and practice of psychology.

Student Learning Outcome 5:

Apply theoretical knowledge and interpersonal skills to therapeutic relationships.

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 5

- Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills
- Effective Communication Skills
- Critical and Reflective Thinking Skills

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 5:

Each year the department will compile data from the Field Supervisors' review of practicum students placed in that year. This is a qualitative review of practicum student performance. Final evaluation of the semester. Successful completion of this outcome will be indicated by at least 75% of practicum students receiving ratings indicating that their performance was considered above average by their supervisors and with no students receiving ratings indicating that their performance was below average or worse.

Summary of Data

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	7	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	7	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 5:

Results suggest that the program was successful in preparing students to apply theoretical knowledge and interpersonal skills to therapeutic relationships.

