

## Assessment of Practicum, Internship, and Field Based Experiences

2014-2015

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There are ten academic programs at NMHU that require a practicum, internship, or field based experience as part of their program requirements. There are two other programs (Media Arts and Sociology) that include a field experience as an elective course. Eight of the programs that require a practicum, internship, or field-based experience have identified at least one Student Learning Outcome in their program’s Outcomes Assessment Report directly related to that experience. In each case, the programs chose as a measure an assessment of the student’s performance by the field supervising directly overseeing the student’s work. In almost all cases these individuals are not members of the Highlands faculty. This results in assessments that are direct, objective, highly valid measures of the students’ performance in work settings directly related to their field of study.

### Program Name: Early Childhood Multicultural Education Undergraduate

**Student Learning Outcome One:** Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills

#### NMHU Traits Assessed

- Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills

**Means of Assessment One:** Assessment documentation- University Supervisor Field Based 3, Final Evaluation, Competency I, “The teacher accurately demonstrates appropriate knowledge of the content area”. Criterion for success- Rating 3.0 +

#### Results:

Students Meeting Criterion	26	Students Not Meeting Criterion	1
Total # of Students Assessed	27	Percent Meeting Criterion	96.3%

**Student Learning Outcome One:** Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills

#### NMHU Traits Assessed

- Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills

**Means of Assessment Two:** Assessment documentation- Cooperating Teacher Field Based 3, Final Evaluation, Competency IV.A “Curriculum Implementation and Developmentally Appropriate Content- develops, implements, and evaluates an integrated curriculum that focuses on children’s development and interests, using their language, home experiences and cultural values”. Criterion for success – Rating 3.0+

**Results:**

Students Meeting Criterion	27	Students Not Meeting Criterion	0
Total # of Students Assessed	27	Percent Meeting Criterion	100%

**Student Learning Outcome Two:** Effective Communication Skills

**NMHU Traits Assessed**

- Effective Communication Skills

**Means of Assessment:** Assessment documentation- University Supervisor Field Based 3, Final Evaluation, Competency III “The teacher communicates with and obtains feedback in a manner that enhances student learning and understanding”. Criterion for success- 3.0+

**Results:**

Students Meeting Criterion	27	Students Not Meeting Criterion	0
Total # of Students Assessed	27	Percent Meeting Criterion	100%

**Student Learning Outcome Three:** Critical and Reflective Thinking Skills

**NMHU Traits Assessed**

- Critical and Reflective Thinking Skills

**Means of Assessment:** Assessment documentation- University Supervisor Final Disposition Evaluation, Disposition 7 “Adjusts performance based upon reflection and/or input. Criterion for success- 3.0+

**Results:**

Students Meeting Criterion	27	Students Not Meeting Criterion	0
Total # of Students Assessed	27	Percent Meeting Criterion	100%

**Program Name: Elementary Education Undergraduate**

**Student Learning Outcome:** Effective Communication Skills

**NMHU Traits Assessed**

- Effective Communication Skills

**First Means of Assessment:** Assessment documentation- University Supervisor Field Based 3, Final Evaluation, Competency III “The teacher communicates with and obtains feedback in a manner that enhances student learning and understanding”. Criterion for success- 3.0+

**Results:**

Students Meeting Criterion	71	Students Not Meeting Criterion	4
Total # of Students Assessed	75	Percent Meeting Criterion	94.7%

**Second Means of Assessment:** Assessment documentation- Cooperating Teacher Field Based 3, Final Evaluation, Competency IV.A “Understands the importance of including parents and community members in classroom and school curriculum development and the decision making process”. Criterion for success – 3.0

**Results:**

Students Meeting Criterion	61	Students Not Meeting Criterion	1
Total # of Students Assessed	62	Percent Meeting Criterion	98.4%

**Program Name: Psychology Masters**

**Student Learning Outcome:** Adopt a high standard for ethical behavior and work performance.

**NMHU Traits Assessed**

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

**Means of Assessment:** 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 receiving ratings indicating their performance was considered above average by their supervisors and with no students receiving ratings indicating that their performance was below average or worse.

**Results:**

Students Meeting Criterion	21	Students Not Meeting Criterion	1
Total # of Students Assessed	22	Percent Meeting Criterion	95.5%

**Program Name: Special Education Undergraduate**

**Student Learning Outcome:** Effective Communication Skills

**NMHU Traits Assessed**

- Effective Communication Skills

**Means of Assessment:** Assessment material. University Supervisor FB III, Item III, final observation rating. Criterion for success.  $\geq 3$

**Results:**

Students Meeting Criterion	38	Students Not Meeting Criterion	0
Total # of Students Assessed	38	Percent Meeting Criterion	100%

**Program Name: Counseling and Guidance Masters**

**Student Learning Outcome:** To demonstrate the effective use of counseling skills.

**NMHU Traits Assessed**

- Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills
- Effective Communication Skills

**Means of Assessment:** Internship evaluations are completed by the student’s Internship site supervisor at midterm and at the end of each semester in which the student is enrolled in the Internship. The evaluations measure the composite skills of effective counseling that include the ability to attain the treatment goals through the effective and appropriate use of the interactive skills that comprise the essence of counseling. Each are is rated on a 4-point scale. Adequate evaluations are considered to be those in which the average rating is between 3-4.

**Results:**

Students Meeting Criterion	39	Students Not Meeting Criterion	0
Total # of Students Assessed	39	Percent Meeting Criterion	100%

**Program Name: Elementary Ed/Special Education Dual Major Undergraduate**

**Student Learning Outcome:** Effective Communication Skills

**NMHU Traits Assessed**

- Effective Communication Skills

**Means of Assessment:** Assessment documentation- University Supervisor Field Based 3, Final Evaluation, Competency III “The teacher communicates with and obtains feedback in a manner that enhances student learning and understanding”. Criterion for success- 3.0+

**Results:**

Students Meeting Criterion	27	Students Not Meeting Criterion	0
Total # of Students Assessed	27	Percent Meeting Criterion	100%

**Means of Assessment Two:** Assessment documentation- Cooperating Teacher Field Based 3,Final Evaluation, Competency IV.A “Understands the importance of including parents and community

members in classroom and school curriculum development and the decision making process". Criterion for success – 3.0+

**Results:**

Students Meeting Criterion	26	Students Not Meeting Criterion	1
Total # of Students Assessed	27	Percent Meeting Criterion	96.3%

**Overall Results:**

In the 2014-2015 academic year, a total of 196 students in six programs were assessed on their performance in practicum, internship, or field experience placements. Every program based their assessments upon ratings from the students’ field supervisors, who in most cases are not members of the Highlands faculty. Some programs assessed their students on more than one measure, resulting in a total of 398 student assessments included in this report.

These results show an extremely high level of performance among NMHU practicum, internship and field experience students, with 98% of assessments showing students performing at levels at or above their academic programs’ criterion for success.

Students Meeting Criterion	390	Students Not Meeting Criterion	8
Total # of Student Assessments	398	Percent Meeting Criterion	98.0%

**Use of Results and Recommendations:**

While these data show a high level of success for students participating in these experiences, it is difficult to interpret exactly what these data mean or how they can be used for improvement. The Student Learning Outcomes connected with these measures are not specific to these types of experiences for most of the programs. In addition, four programs that either require a practicum or have it as an elective for their students do not currently include assessments of those programs in their plans. Finally, although these experiences are clearly designed to prepare students for work after graduation, no program included a measure related to that learning outcome.

Consequently, the recommendations from this report are:

- Ensure that all programs that involve practicums, internships or field experiences include at least one assessment of those experiences in their annual outcomes assessment process.
- Ensure that the Student Learning Outcomes associated with these experiences are specific to the experiences.
- Ensure that the measures of those Student Learning Outcomes are direct measures of the students’ performance during the placement and of the role of the placement in preparing the student for work post-graduation.