

ASSESSMENT REPORT 2015-2016

Educational Leadership

(Instructional Degree Program)

M.A.

(Degree Level)

Program Mission:

The New Mexico Highlands University Department of Educational Leadership directs multifaceted learning, research, and development in leadership, including capacities for collaboration, strategic planning, participation, voice, and distribution of expertise.

Today, leadership in education at NMHU includes contexts of Pre-K-12, Post-Secondary and Higher Education, including leadership for traditional public schools, charter schools, and private institutions. It is the mission of Educational Leadership to develop site leaders capable of supervision and direction of instructional leadership, communication, professional development, and operations management in educational settings.

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 of content knowledge and skills in MA written comprehensive exam. Criterion for success: >80%

Summary of Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	21	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	21	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome 1:

Assessment of content knowledge and skills in MA oral exam. Criterion for success: item 2 of Evaluation of Oral Examination < 3 (1 or 2)

Summary of Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	22	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	22	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 1:

Candidates for the MA degree in Educational Leadership perform exceptionally in demonstrations of content knowledge within the field. The measures of this knowledge, appraised by an 8-hour written comprehensive exam and the oral examination (defense), assess leader content that is practical, relating to daily knowledge required of school leaders in areas such as operations management, and theoretical, including candidates' of ability to explicate and reflect in matters such as instructional leadership utilizing varied models of leadership. As appraised, EDLD candidates performed very well on this requirement.

These data are consistent with other global measures of achievement, including performance on the Education Administrator Test of the NMTA, required for administrator licensure by the New Mexico Public Education Department, upon which our candidates have a pass rate of 96% on their first attempt. They are also consistent with EDLD collective GPA's above 3.75.

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 of Statement of Interest from EDLD application. Criterion for success: rubric score of 3 or greater.

Summary of Data:

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

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 2:

This assessment addresses candidates' written communication upon application to the program, based upon a 750-word statement of interest including both the candidate's practical and scholarly aims for participation in a MA program. (Rubric scoring of candidates began with applications received in fall of 2012. Candidates for whom this rubric score is not available (NA) applied prior to 2012.) Of the candidates appraised, EDLD candidates performed very well on this requirement.

Candidates' performance on Item 1 of Learning Outcome 1, performance on the written comprehensive exam, provides an excellent indicator of performance on written communication upon program completion.

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 of application of subject knowledge solution of problems in MA oral exam.

Criterion for success: item 3 of Evaluation of Oral Exam < 3 (1 or 2)

Summary of Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	22	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	22	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome 3:

Assessment of use of relevant factors in arriving at conclusions in MA oral exam. Criterion for success: item 4 of Evaluation of Oral Exam < 3 (1 or 2)

Summary of Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	22	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	22	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 3:

This assessment addresses candidates' critical and reflective thinking skills as appraised by performance on two components of the oral examination (defense) at completion of the MA program. The first of these components, Application of Subject Matter to the Solution of Problems, demonstrates candidate capability to connect situations at hand with potential means of resolution, a most important ability for educational leaders. As appraised, EDLD candidates performed very well on this requirement.

The second of these components, Use of Relevant Factors in Arriving at Conclusions, demonstrates candidates' capability in an educational leadership setting to draw from a constellation of factors one (or ones) most pertinent to well-reasoned action. As appraised, EDLD candidates also performed very well on this requirement.

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: Rating of electronic media use in oral exam (Powerpoint, Prezi, Keynote, etc.). Criterion for success: Electronic media rating of < 3 (1 or 2)

Summary of Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	22	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	22	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 4:

This assessment addresses candidates' effective use of technology as appraised by performance by the Educational Leadership requirement that each candidate use electronic media during the presentation portion of the oral examination. This quality of the presentation is evaluated based on the candidate's preparation of appropriate visual support, most often projected slides (utilizing Power Point, Prezi, Keynote, etc.).

Since students present numerous electronically supported demonstrations throughout

the MA program, the electronic portion of the oral exam is appraised for candidates' facility in using media in a fluent manner. As appraised, EDLD candidates performed very well on this requirement.