

Department of Exercise and Sport Sciences

Human Performance and Sport (graduate) Outcomes Assessment Report

AY 2021-2022 and 2022-2023

Contact Person: Dr. Kathy Jenkins, Professor of Exercise Physiology and Department Chair

Human Performance and Sport Graduate

(Instructional Degree Program)

M.A.

(Degree Level)

Program Mission:

The mission of the Department of Exercise and Sport Sciences is to improve the quality of life related to the many aspects of human movement. We concentrate on a full spectrum of human potential, from young to old, fit to unfit, recreational to highly athletic, healthy to diseased, and able-bodied to disabled. Our programs are related to the study of exercise physiology, health, teaching, athletic injuries, recreation, sports administration, and coaching.

Student Learning Outcome 1:

Demonstrate a mastery of content knowledge in their appropriate discipline.

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 1

- Mastery of Content Knowledge and Skills

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 1:

A majority of graduating students receive a GPA of 3.0 or above in HPS graduate coursework. While GPA is not our typical “means” for assessing our program outcomes, we use GPA in this instance as a benchmark for our own internal assessments of students’ overall exit performance from our program.

Summary of Data:

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	10/10	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0/0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	10/10	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 1:

For AY 2021-22 and 2022-2023, 100% of students had a GPA of 3.0 or above. The average GPA for these OA years were: 3.72 and 3.54, respectively for 21-22 and 22-23. This percentage is decreased from previous years. In the OA report from the previous year, the number was also 100% and we recognize that students must have a GPA of 3.0 or above to graduate. However, tracking the overall averages is important to our faculty, as demonstrates students success in their graduate courses.

Student Learning Outcome 2:

Demonstrate the ability to use technology to enhance professional productivity.

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 2

- Effective Use of Technology

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 2:

1) HPS students: a majority of students receive a 24/30 on the final papers in two of the Blackboard internet course electives. 2) HPS/Sport Administration students: a majority of students receive a 24/30 on the final project in HPS 561 and HPS 509. 3) HPS with an emphasis in Teacher Education students: a majority of students receive a 24/30 on the final project in HPS 604.

Summary of Data

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	5/5	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	0/0
Total Number of Students Assessed:	5/5	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	100%

Missing data: The tenure track faculty member teaching Physical Education during this time period resigned prior to the start of the fall 2023 semester. Although the Department Chair gained access to his courses and gradebook on BrightSpace, there were no data available for this criterion, as the faculty member did not use the gradebook on BrightSpace. This affected the number of students we analyzed for this SLO. Additionally, an Exercise Science faculty member is out for medical leave and he does not use BrightSpace for his grading. Therefore, we are missing data.

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 2:

Our department faculty are satisfied with the results of this analysis for the use of technology in our graduate courses. We recognize that COVID did not affect the success of our graduate students in their course and preparation of their final paper/projects in these courses. Our graduate program has been 75% online since 2004. Therefore, our graduate students are used to their courses being taught in a

distance, zoom, or hybrid format. We will continue to monitor this learning outcome, as the use of technology in our field is imperative.

Student Learning Outcome 3:

Demonstrate effective interpersonal communication skills.

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 3

- Effective Communication Skills

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 3:

1) HPS students: a majority of students receive a 32/40 on the research proposal in EXSC 6200. 2) HPS/Sport Administration students: a majority of students receive a 24/30 on the final project in EXSC 5610 and EXSC 5090. 3) HPS with an emphasis in Teacher Education students: a majority of students receive a 32/40 on the research proposal in EXSC 6200.

Summary of Data

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	12/5	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	3/1
Total Number of Students Assessed:	15/6	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	80%/83%

Missing data: The tenure track faculty member teaching Physical Education during this time period resigned prior to the start of the fall 2023 semester. Although the Department Chair gained access to his courses and gradebook on BrightSpace, there were no data available for this criterion, as the faculty member did not use the gradebook on BrightSpace.

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 3:

Between 80 and 83% of students met this criterion. Three students who did not meet the 80% criterion passed their Research Methods course but received a 70% on this project. That is a passing grade for graduate school (the total GPA must be a 3.0). One student received an incomplete and therefore did not meet this criterion at the time of this report. We recognize that COVID did not affect the success of our graduate students in their course and preparation of their final paper/projects in these courses. Our graduate program has been 75% online since 2004. Therefore, our graduate students are used to their courses being taught in a distance, zoom, or hybrid format. We will continue to monitor this learning outcome, as the use of technology in our field is imperative.

Student Learning Outcome 4:

Demonstrate critical and reflective practices.

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 4

- Critical and Reflective Thinking

First Means of Assessment for Outcome 4:

1) Thesis and Field Project Students: A majority of students will receive an average of 2 or better on their oral presentation for their field project/thesis. 2) Comprehensive Exam Students: The passing rate on comprehensive written examinations is 67% or above.

Summary of Data

Number of Students Meeting Criterion:	12	Number of Students Not Meeting Criterion:	8
Total Number of Students Assessed:	20	Percent of Students Meeting Criterion:	60%

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 4:

Students in our department may choose an exit option. The majority of students choose comprehensive exams. To pass comprehensive exams, students must earn a 70% above on all four sections of the exam. One student failed comprehensive exams twice during this period. When students fail the exam, they may only retake it one time, in a different semester, per department policy. When a student fails the exam two times, they must switch to another exit option like field project or thesis to graduate. The department faculty are satisfied with our pass rate on comprehensive exams. The students that did not pass the exams were not prepared and answered the questions poorly. Additionally, one student who failed, was approved to take the exam by the Graduate Dean, even though he had not yet completed his EXSC 6700 Assessment and Evaluation course. Our department policy is that both EXSC 6700 and EXSC 6200 be completed prior to taking comprehensive exams, as they are both a required part of comprehensive exams. Because this student had not completed his course, he failed that section badly. As a result, our department revised our Comprehensive Exam Manual to make it clear that all students must have successfully completed EXSC 6200 and 6700 prior to taking comprehensive exams. The Comprehensive Exam Manual is passed out to all students during our EXSC 6200 Research Methods course, and we also hand out our department's Field Project and Thesis Manual. We had no students complete field projects or theses during this OA cycle.