Social Sciences

Program / Student Learning Outcomes: What Will I Learn?

1. Compare and contrast theories in at least two social science disciplines, such as economics, political science, and/or sociology.
2. Apply appropriate social science theories and methodologies to do an in-depth analysis of an important question, issue, or problem.
3. Assess the validity and reliability of multiple sources of evidence in interdisciplinary social science research.
4. Evaluate research, related policies, and recommendations on a specific social policy problem, identifying trade-offs among ethical principles and societal considerations inherent in any policy decision.

Assessment Methodology

Metrics, Assessments, and Levels of Achievement
The table below provides a brief overview of the measures selected to assess program outcomes for the Natural Science major. Assessment of program outcomes includes both direct and indirect measures. Benchmarks have been established to differentiate between three levels of program outcome achievement (exceeds expectations, meets expectations, and does not meet expectations). These three levels of achievement are color coded and used in the section below to indicate the level of achievement for each measure, for each learning outcome.

Metric Type	Direct Measures	Indirect Measures	
Assessments	Capstone Course	Exit Survey*	One-Year Postgraduate Survey**
Metrics	The percentage of the students demonstrating mastery of the learning outcome on the Capstone Rubric for the designated program outcome.	The mean of the graduates' perceptions of their achievement of the related program outcome (on a 6-pt Likert-type scale).	
Exceeds Expectations	≥ 90% of work Meets Expectations, 60% Exceeds Expectations, and <10% Does Not Meet Expectations	Mean ≥ 5%	
Meets Expectations	At least 85% of student work Meets Expectations, and ≤15% of student work Does Not Meet Expectations	4.0 - 4.99	
Does Not Meet Expectations	< 85% of work Meets Expectations, and/or >15% Does Not Meet Expectations	Mean < 4	

Note: The results of the one year post-graduation survey are used as a reference to provide a longitudinal perspective on students' attainment of program (student) outcomes.

Program Outcome Achievement Results

Summer I (May) 2020 through Fall II (October) 2021

Program Outcome		Direct Measure(s)	Indirect Measures	
1	Compare and contrast theories in at least two social science disciplines, such as economics, political science, and/or sociology.	Capstone Course LA498SS	Exit Survey	One-Year Survey
		96%	*	*
		n = 23	*	*
2	Apply appropriate social science theories and methodologies to do an in-depth analysis of an important question, issue, or problem.	Capstone Course LA498 SS	Exit Survey	One-Year Survey
		96%	*	*
		n = 26	*	*
3	Assess the validity and reliability of multiple sources of evidence in interdisciplinary social science research.	Capstone Course LA498 SS	Exit Survey	One-Year Survey
		96%	*	*
		n = 29	*	*
4	Evaluate research, related policies, and recommendations on a specific social policy problem, identifying trade-offs among ethical principles and societal considerations inherent in any policy decisions.	Capstone Course LA498 SS	Exit Survey	One-Year Survey
		97%	*	*
		n = 29	*	*