For Academic Programs

Informed by your assessment activities related to student learning, what changes have you made in your degree program in the last three to five years? Describe the changes (e.g., curriculum revision, new courses, faculty development), the general results that prompted the changes (e.g., student performance on an assessment measure), and any impact on student learning that you might attribute to these changes.

Over the last several years of assessment, only the learning objectives for HES 509 have been measured. This course has gone through several revisions due to turnover in instructors as this course serves every graduate major and program in our college. The course content has recently been changed to reflect the original intent and be more outcome-driven to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the research process. For example, students now must complete a research article critique, a written assignment to showcase their ability to understand and synthesize the research literature specific to their field of study.

Mission / Purpose

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Student Learning Outcomes, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Targets, Findings, and Action Plans

SLO 1: Discipline Knowledge
General HES graduates will be able to define and differentiate between quantitative and qualitative research methods.

Connected Document
Curriculum Maps

Related Measures

M 1: Discussions on Research
Students will participate in classroom discussions on qualitative and quantitative research methods.

Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other

Target:
All students will participate in class discussions on qualitative and quantitative methods.

Finding (2013-2014) - Target: Met
All students participated in class discussions or online blog posts on qualitative and quantitative methods.

M 2: Final Exam Discussion Items
Students enrolled in HES 509 will receive a score of 80% or higher on the final examination discussion items on quantitative and qualitative research.

Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other

Target:
At least 75% of students enrolled in HES 509 will receive a score of 80% or higher on the final examination discussion items on quantitative and qualitative research.

Finding (2013-2014) - Target: Met
At least 75% of students enrolled in HES 509 received a score of 80% or higher on the final exam discussion items on quantitative and qualitative research. Details are listed below:

Final exam Q#3 involved designing three different studies (using three different study designs) and then evaluating the strengths and limitations of each design

29/38 in the online section = 76.31%
16/20 in the in-class section = 80%
45/58 for both sections combined = 77.58%

Final exam Q#4 involved reading an article and critiquing the study design and suggesting a new design that would improve upon the limitations of the original design

32/38 in the online section = 84.21%
SLO 2: Skills & Abilities
General HES graduates will demonstrate an understanding of ethical issues of research and the human subjects approval process.

Related Measures

M 3: IRB Training
All students in HES 509 will successfully complete the IRB training in the protection of human subjects.
Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other
Target:
All students in HES 509 will successfully complete the IRB training in the protection of human subjects.
Finding (2013-2014) - Target: Met
100% of the students (in Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 sections) completed and passed the CITI training.

M 4: Exam questions on Human Subjects Research
Students will be able to correctly answer final exam questions pertaining to the Protections of Human Subjects in Research.
Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other
Target:
At least 75% of students enrolled in HES 509 will receive a score of 80% or higher on the final examination items on the protection of human subjects in research.
Finding (2013-2014) - Target: Not Met
42/58 (72.4%) earned a score of 80% or higher on the final exam ethics question.

SLO 3: An Improvement Outcome Derived From their 2010-11 Assessment Findings
General HES graduates will practice in their profession at an advanced level or demonstrate the ability to discuss and synthesize the theories and applications from graduate coursework.

Related Measures

M 5: Article Critique
Students in this course will successfully complete the article critique assignment.
Source of Evidence: Written assignment(s), usually scored by a rubric
Target:
At least 90% of students will receive a 80% or higher on the article critique assignment.
Finding (2013-2014) - Target: Met
The majority of students (over 90%) received a grade of B or better on the article critique assignment.

M 6: Capstone Assignment
Students enrolled in a capstone project will complete it within the semester.
Source of Evidence: Capstone course assignments measuring mastery
Target:
All students enrolled in a capstone course assignment completed it within the semester of enrollment.
Finding (2013-2014) - Target: Met
All students enrolled in a capstone course completed it as part of their degree requirement during the 2013-14 academic year.

M 7: Faculty Guidance
Faculty will monitor and report the type and frequency of capstone experience projects for each student.
Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other
Target:
Every student enrolled in a capstone experience project will be guided by an HES faculty member.
Finding (2013-2014) - Target: Met
Every student (100%) enrolled in an HES capstone experience project for the Fall 2013 was guided by an HES faculty member.

Other Outcomes, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Targets, Findings, and Action Plans

OthOtm 4: Program Outcome: Sustain High Level of Recognized Quality
The program will improve and sustain a high level of recognized quality.

Related Measures

M 8: OAA Program Review
The UA Office for Academic Affairs (OAA) coordinates program reviews in cooperation with the academic unit under
review, the respective college, and the Graduate School. The review of departments with a mix of accredited and unaccredited programs normally will occur in the year when the self-study begins for accreditation.

Source of Evidence: Administrative measure - other

Target: No Target Established

Finding (2013-2014) - Target: Not Reported This Cycle
The OAA Program Review was not reported in this cycle. The College of HES will be submitting the modified Program Review to OAA in the Fall of 2014.

M 9: Faculty Degrees
Full-time faculty in the College of Human Environmental Sciences will hold appropriate terminal degrees, professional designations and/or licenses appropriate for their teaching area.

Source of Evidence: Administrative measure - other

Target: At least 80% of the full-time faculty in the College of Human Environmental Sciences will hold appropriate terminal degrees, professional designations and/or licenses appropriate for their teaching area.

Finding (2013-2014) - Target: Met
There were 67 full time faculty in HES in 2013-14, and over 90% of which held appropriate terminal degrees, professional designations or licenses in their areas.

OthOtcm 5: Program Outcome: Optimal Program Enrollments and Degree Completion
The program will build and sustain an optimal level of annual program enrollments and degree completion.

Connected Document
Curriculum Maps

Related Measures

M 10: Enrollment
Maintain enrollment in the MS in General HES program each Fall.

Source of Evidence: Administrative measure - other

Target: Maintain at least 90% of the previous year’s number of students enrolled in the MS in General HES program each Fall.

Finding (2013-2014) - Target: Met
As of September 2013, there are 535 graduate students enrolled in the College of Human Environmental Sciences. Interpretation: The number of students went from 563 in Fall 2012 to 535 in Fall 2013. This represents a 5% decrease, which is a slight drop in enrollment from last year. We expect to continue to increase or maintain this number of students enrolled in The College of Human Environmental Sciences.

M 11: Degrees Awarded
Maintain at least 90% of the current number (n=73) of degrees conferred in the MS in General HES program each Fall.

Source of Evidence: Administrative measure - other

Target: To maintain and/or increase graduate degrees of MS in HES conferred each year.

OthOtcm 6: Program Outcome: Highly Valued by Program Graduates
The program will be highly valued by its program graduates and other key constituencies it serves.

Connected Document
Curriculum Maps

Related Measures

M 12: Alumni Survey
Employment Status based on results from the alumni survey conducted by the College of Human Environmental Sciences.

Source of Evidence: Alumni survey or tracking of alumni achievements

Target: No Target Established

Finding (2013-2014) - Target: Met
Excluding those not seeking employment, 98% of the remaining 86 respondents were employed.

M 13: Qualitative Feedback
Qualitative feedback collected during individual advising with graduate students.

Source of Evidence: Academic indirect indicator of learning - other

Target: No Target Established

Finding (2013-2014) - Target: Not Reported This Cycle
We are meeting with graduate program coordinators from each area of HES to develop an exit interview for graduating students.

Details of Action Plans for This Cycle (by Established cycle, then alpha)

Change in assignment from Ethical Dilemmas to Research Article Critique
For students enrolled in HES 509, the completion of a Research Article Critique will help them to utilize skills necessary for their understanding and interpretation of research in the field of HES.
Graduate Student Feedback
The Associate Dean, with the HES Graduate Studies Committee will develop an exit interview form to be used by academic advisors in each program with at least one graduating graduate student during the academic year.

Established in Cycle: 2012-2013
Implementation Status: Planned
Priority: High
Responsible Person/Group: Associate Dean
University of Alabama

Detailed Assessment Report
2012-2013 General HES M.S.H.E.S., Human Environmental Science
As of: 7/17/2014 09:19 AM CENTRAL

Mission / Purpose

The mission of the College of Human Environmental Sciences is to provide strong undergraduate and graduate programs in the field of human environmental sciences. Further the College strives to contribute to the generation of new knowledge in the field and to the application of this knowledge to improving the quality of life of individuals, families, and communities.

Student Learning Outcomes, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Targets, Findings, and Action Plans

SLO 1: Discipline Knowledge
General HES graduates will be able to define and differentiate between quantitative and qualitative research methods.

Related Measures

M 1: Discussions on Research
Students will participate in classroom discussions on qualitative and quantitative research methods.

Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other

Target: All students will participate in class discussions on qualitative and quantitative methods.

Finding (2012-2013) - Target: Not Reported This Cycle
The class discussion was not included as part of the class this year.

M 2: Final Exam Discussion Items
Students enrolled in HES 509 will receive a score of 80% or higher on the final examination discussion items on quantitative and qualitative research.

Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other

Target: All students will receive a score of 80% or higher on the final examination discussion items on quantitative and qualitative research.

Finding (2012-2013) - Target: Met
Summary of Results: 25/32 students (78.125%) earned a score of 80% or greater on the research exam questions.

Interpretations and Conclusions:

SLO 2: Skills & Abilities
General HES graduates will demonstrate an understanding of ethical issues of research and the human subjects approval process.

Related Measures

M 3: IRB Training
All students in HES 509 will successfully complete the IRB training in the protection of human subjects.

Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other

Target: All students in HES 509 will successfully complete the IRB training in the protection of human subjects.

Finding (2012-2013) - Target: Met
All students (100%) completed IRB training for human subjects via the CITI training website.

M 4: Ethical Dilemmas
Students enrolled in HES 509 will receive a score of 80% or higher on the final examination items on the protection of human subjects in research based on the videos relating to ethical dilemmas in research.

Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other

Target: At least 75% of students enrolled in HES 509 will receive a score of 80% or higher on the final examination items on the protection of human subjects in research based on the videos relating to ethical dilemmas in research.

Finding (2012-2013) - Target: Met
29/32 students (90.625%) earned a score of 80% or greater on the ethics final exam question.

Related Action Plans (by Established cycle, then alpha):
For full information, see the Details of Action Plans section of this report.

Change in assignment from Ethical Dilemmas to Research Article Critique
Established in Cycle: 2012-2013
For students enrolled in HES 509, the completion of a Research Article Critique will help them to utilize skills necessary for t...

SLO 3: An Improvement Outcome Derived From their 2010-11 Assessment Findings
General HES graduates will practice in their profession at an advanced level or demonstrate the ability to discuss and synthesize the theories and applications from graduate coursework.

Connected Document
Curriculum Maps

Related Measures

M 5: Capstone Assignment
Students enrolled in a capstone project will complete it within the semester.
Source of Evidence: Capstone course assignments measuring mastery
Target: All students enrolled in a capstone course assignment completed it within the semester of enrollment.

M 6: Faculty Guidance
Faculty will monitor and report the type and frequency of capstone experience projects for each student.
Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other
Target: Every student enrolled in a capstone experience project will be guided by an HES faculty member.
Finding (2012-2013) - Target: Met
Every student (100%) enrolled in an HES capstone experience project was guided by an HES faculty member.

Other Outcomes, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Targets, Findings, and Action Plans

OthOtcm 4: Program Outcome: Sustain High Level of Recognized Quality
The program will improve and sustain a high level of recognized quality.

Connected Document
Curriculum Maps

Related Measures

M 7: OAA Program Review
The UA Office for Academic Affairs (OAA) coordinates program reviews in cooperation with the academic unit under review, the respective college, and the Graduate School. The review of departments with a mix of accredited and unaccredited programs normally will occur in the year when the self-study begins for accreditation.
Source of Evidence: Administrative measure - other
Target: No Target Established

M 8: Faculty Degrees
Full-time faculty in the College of Human Environmental Sciences will hold appropriate terminal degrees, professional designations and/or licenses appropriate for their teaching area.
Source of Evidence: Administrative measure - other
Target: At least 80% of the full-time faculty in the College of Human Environmental Sciences will hold appropriate terminal degrees, professional designations and/or licenses appropriate for their teaching area.
Finding (2012-2013) - Target: Met
There were 64 full time faculty in HES in 2012-13, over 90% of which held appropriate terminal degrees, professional designations or licenses in their areas.

OthOtcm 5: Program Outcome: Optimal Program Enrollments and Degree Completion
The program will build and sustain an optimal level of annual program enrollments and degree completion.

Connected Document
Curriculum Maps

Related Measures

M 9: Enrollment
Maintain enrollment in the MS in General HES program each Fall.
Source of Evidence: Administrative measure - other
Target: Maintain at least 90% of the current number (n=169) of students enrolled in the MS in General HES program each Fall
Finding (2012-2013) - Target: Met
There are currently 170 students enrolled in the MS in General HES program in the Fall 2012, an increase of 1 from the 169 students enrolled in Fall 2011.

M 10: Degrees Awarded
Maintain at least 90% of the current number (n=73) of degrees conferred in the BS in General HES program each Fall.
Source of Evidence: Administrative measure - other
Target: To maintain and/or increase graduate degrees of MS in HES conferred each year.
Finding (2012-2013) - Target: Met
There were 77 graduate degrees of MS in HES conferred in 2012-2013

OthOtcm 6: Program Outcome: Highly Valued by Program Graduates
The program will be highly valued by its program graduates and other key constituencies it serves.

Connected Document
Curriculum Maps

Related Measures

M 11: Alumni Survey
Results from the alumni survey conducted by the College of Human Environmental Sciences.
Source of Evidence: Alumni survey or tracking of alumni achievements
Target:
No Target Established

Finding (2012-2013) - Target: Not Reported This Cycle
The Alumni survey was not conducted this year.

M 12: Qualitative Feedback
Qualitative feedback collected during individual advising with graduate students.
Source of Evidence: Academic indirect indicator of learning - other
Target:
No Target Established

Finding (2012-2013) - Target: Not Reported This Cycle
This information was not collected this year.

Related Action Plans (by Established cycle, then alpha):

Graduate Student Feedback
Established in Cycle: 2012-2013
The Associate Dean, with the HES Graduate Studies Committee will develop an exit interview form to be used by academic advisors ...

For full information, see the Details of Action Plans section of this report.

Details of Action Plans for This Cycle (by Established cycle, then alpha)

Change in assignment from Ethical Dilemmas to Research Article Critique
For students enrolled in HES 509, the completion of a Research Article Critique will help them to utilize skills necessary for their understanding and interpretation of research in the field of HES.

Established in Cycle: 2012-2013
Implementation Status: Planned
Priority: High

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Ethical Dilemmas | Outcome/Objective: Skills & Abilities

Graduate Student Feedback
The Associate Dean, with the HES Graduate Studies Committee will develop an exit interview form to be used by academic advisors in each program with at least one graduating graduate student during the academic year.

Established in Cycle: 2012-2013
Implementation Status: Planned
Priority: High

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Qualitative Feedback | Outcome/Objective: Program Outcome: Highly Valued by Program Graduates

Responsible Person/Group: Associate Dean
University of Alabama

Detailed Assessment Report  
2011-2012 General HES M.S.H.E.S., Human Environmental Science
As of: 7/17/2014 09:20 AM CENTRAL

Mission / Purpose

The mission of the College of Human Environmental Sciences is to provide strong undergraduate and graduate programs in the field of human environmental sciences. Further the College strives to contribute to the generation of new knowledge in the field and to the application of this knowledge to improving the quality of life of individuals, families, and communities.

Student Learning Outcomes, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Targets, Findings, and Action Plans

SLO 1: Discipline Knowledge
General HES graduates will be able to define and differentiate between quantitative and qualitative research methods.

Connected Document
Curriculum Maps

Related Measures

M 1: Discussions on Research
All students will participate in classroom discussions on qualitative and quantitative research methods
Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other

Target:
100% student participation

Finding (2011-2012) - Target: Met
All students participated in class discussions on qualitative and quantitative methods. Most also participated in a hands-on quantitative exercise in the computer lab.

M 2: Final Exam Discussion Items
At least 75% of students enrolled in HES 509 will receive a score of 80% or higher on the final examination discussion items on quantitative and qualitative research.
Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other

Target:
At least 75%

Finding (2011-2012) - Target: Met
Over 90% of the students received a score of 80% or higher on the items related to qualitative and quantitative research that were on the Final exam.

SLO 2: Skills & Abilities
General HES graduates will demonstrate an understanding of ethical issues of research and the human subjects approval process.

Connected Document
Curriculum Maps

Related Measures

M 3: IRB Training
All students in HES 509 will successfully complete the IRB training in the protection of human subjects.
Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other

Target:
All students enrolled in HES 509

Finding (2011-2012) - Target: Met
All 29 students (100%) completed IRB training for human subjects and were certified via the CITI training website.

M 4: Ethical Dilemmas
At least 75% of students enrolled in HES 509 will receive a score of 80% or higher on the final examination items on the protection of human subjects in research based on the videos relating to ethical dilemmas in research.
Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other

Target:
At least 75% of students enrolled in HES 509

Finding (2011-2012) - Target: Met
More than 90% of the students received a score of over 80% on the items related to ethics on the Final exam.

SLO 3: An Improvement Outcome Derived From their 2010-11 Assessment Findings
General HES graduates will practice in their profession at an advanced level or demonstrate the ability to discuss and synthesize the theories and applications from graduate coursework.

Connected Document
M 5: Capstone Assignment
At least 85% of students enrolled in a capstone project will complete it within the semester.

Source of Evidence: Capstone course assignments measuring mastery

Target:
At least 85% of students enrolled in a capstone project

Finding (2011-2012) - Target: Met
All students enrolled in a capstone course assignment completed it within the semester of enrollment for the 2011-12 academic year.

M 6: Faculty Guidance
CHES faculty will monitor and report the type and frequency of capstone experience projects for each student.

Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other

Target:
Every student enrolled in a capstone experience project.

Finding (2011-2012) - Target: Met
Every student (100%) enrolled in a capstone experience project was guided by an HES faculty member.

OthOtm 4: Program Outcome: Sustain High Level of Recognized Quality
The program will improve and sustain a high level of recognized quality.

Connected Document
Curriculum Maps

Related Measures

M 7: OAA Program Review
The UA Office for Academic Affairs (OAA) coordinates program reviews in cooperation with the academic unit under review, the respective college, and the Graduate School. The review of departments with a mix of accredited and unaccredited programs normally will occur in the year when the self-study begins for accreditation.

Source of Evidence: Administrative measure - other

Target:
No Target Established

M 8: Faculty Degrees
At least 80% of the full-time faculty in the College of Human Environmental Sciences will hold appropriate terminal degrees, professional designations and/or licenses appropriate for their teaching area.

Source of Evidence: Administrative measure - other

Target:
Greater than 80% of the full-time faculty in the College of Human Environmental Sciences

Finding (2011-2012) - Target: Met
Over 90% of full-time faculty in the College of Human Environmental Sciences hold appropriate terminal degrees, professional designations and/or licenses appropriate for their teaching area.

OthOtm 5: Program Outcome: Optimal Program Enrollments and Degree Completion
The program will build and sustain an optimal level of annual program enrollments and degree completion.

Connected Document
Curriculum Maps

Related Measures

M 9: Enrollment
Maintain at least 90% of the current number (n=169) of students enrolled in the MS in General HES program each Fall.

Source of Evidence: Administrative measure - other

Target:
At least 90% of the current enrollment (n=169).

Finding (2011-2012) - Target: Met
There are currently 170 students enrolled in the MS in General HES program in the Fall 2012, an increase of 1 from the 169 students enrolled in Fall 2011.

M 10: Degrees Awarded
Maintain at least 90% of the current number (n=73) of degrees conferred in the BS in General HES program each Fall.

Source of Evidence: Administrative measure - other

Target:
At least 90% of the current number of degrees conferred (n=73).

Finding (2011-2012) - Target: Met
There were 81 graduate degrees of MS in HES conferred in 2011-2012, an increase from the previous year.

OthOtcn 6: Program Outcome: Highly Valued by Program Graduates
The program will be highly valued by its program graduates and other key constituencies it serves.

Connected Document
Curriculum Maps

Related Measures

M 11: Alumni Survey
Results from the alumni survey conducted by the College of Human Environmental Sciences.

Source of Evidence: Alumni survey or tracking of alumni achievements

Target: No Target Established

M 12: Qualitative Feedback
Qualitative feedback collected during individual advising with graduate students.

Source of Evidence: Academic indirect indicator of learning - other

Target: No Target Established