

2022-23 Graduate Program Assessment Guidelines

Each graduate program is required to submit a brief assessment report every other academic year. In 2022-23, the Office of the Provost is asking each unit to confirm program learning outcomes to be published in the UO catalog and to briefly report on recent assessment activities. Updated program learning outcomes are due **April 14, 2023**.

Program Learning Outcomes

Every graduate program must have program learning outcomes published in the Course Catalog. These outcomes serve as the basis for how you assess student learning. In 2022-23, each graduate program will confirm, update, or establish program learning outcomes. The Division of Graduate Studies encourages units to include program learning outcomes related to the following domains.

Disciplinary Knowledge

- Demonstrate mastery of subject material and requisite disciplinary skills.
- Demonstrate ability to critique disciplinary knowledge.
- Conduct and produce original scholarship that contributes to disciplinary knowledge.

Career Preparedness

- Demonstrate knowledge of diverse disciplinary career pathways.
- Demonstrate planful acquisition of disciplinary skills to pursue chosen career pathway.

Engagement

- Demonstrate knowledge, ethics, and skills to produce and disseminate scholarship and practices that equitably serve diverse communities.

Many programs have other learning outcomes related to developing pedagogical skills or written and oral communication skills. See a list of current program outcomes at UO [here](#).

AY2022-23 Assessment Task:

The first step of the assessment cycle is setting goals. Academic year 2022-23 is an opportunity for every graduate program to reset program learning outcomes that will serve the basis of annual assessment work going forward.

Program Learning Outcomes:

Every graduate program will review and submit updated program learning outcomes by **April 14th 2023**.

Programs can use this form to submit updated program learning outcomes:

https://oregon.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_87CdLxqIX2oiwQK

Basic Assessment Plans

In 2022-23, units may also want to update their basic assessment plan to identify when any new outcomes will be assessed and to make revisions based on the new biennial reporting cycle. Current Assessment Plans can be found in Program Assessment Folders, accessed through this webpage: <https://provost.uoregon.edu/program-assessment-folder-access>

For many graduate degrees, assessment can easily build on what faculty and students are already doing. In many cases, students are asked to pull together what they've learned in a research project, comprehensive exam, thesis, field placement or other culminating experience or assignment. These can serve as the basis for assessing many program learning outcomes. It will also be the case in many programs that faculty often get together to discuss the program and how students are performing, and might make program changes as a result. In short, a graduate program assessment plan should identify:

1. Degree program learning outcomes
2. A schedule describing which outcomes will be assessed and reported on each year
3. A description of a means of assessment for each outcome. Existing assignments can likely serve as a basis for evaluation of learning outcomes. This might be a rubric-based assessment of an assignment, or an evaluation of the results of comprehensive exams or defenses. It might also include % of students completing required trainings such as ethics or teaching trainings.
4. A scheduled conversation among faculty each year to discuss results of assessment and make curricular recommendations where warranted.

Graduate Assessment Schedule

All program learning outcomes should be assessed at least once in every 10-year program review cycle. Going forward, graduate programs will submit a brief report about their progress in assessing student learning outcomes every other academic year (in Spring of even numbered years). Units do not need to submit assessment reports during the years they are engaged in Decennial Program Review.

2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
Confirm program learning outcomes, Assessment Plan	Graduate Assessment Report		Graduate Assessment Report		Graduate Assessment Report

For future assessment reports, the Division Graduate Studies and Office of the Provost will provide a simple template to report on assessment of program learning outcomes and other efforts to improve student success. A simple assessment plan for when and how student learning outcomes will be assessed helps programs organize assessment efforts each year.