**Appendix 2. University of Rochester Master’s Degree Program Assessment Plan Sample**

1. **Program title:** Discipline x
2. **Program degree:** MS
3. **Program objectives and program learning outcomes:**

**Program objective 1. Program will prepare students to contribute to and practice in their field**

Core knowledge, methods: Students will demonstrate broad level of knowledge of the theories and methods in the field

Specialization knowledge, methods: Students will demonstrate broad level of knowledge of the theories and methods within specialized area(s) including the areas of…

Research/ Methods: Students will conduct skillful research including gathering, processing, analysis, drawing conclusions; Students will make considered choices in design of a research study

**Program objective 2. Program will prepare students to be successful and responsible professionals in their field**

Written communication: Students will convey ideas or arguments in clear, concise, well organized papers

Oral communication: Students will convey ideas in cogent, persuasive, and organized presentations

Professional ethics: Students will appreciate the importance of and demonstrate a responsible, ethical manner in professional work

Teamwork: Students will demonstrate ability to work with others on projects, including sharing work involved in development of initial ideas and project plan, discussion of progress, and completion of work

Creativity/ innovation/ entrepreneur ship: Students will demonstrate abilities in creativity/ innovation/ entrepreneurship through development of new inventions, patents, publications, productions, performances, public or private organizations

Global citizenship/ broad impact: Students will demonstrate appreciation for one’s role as a member of an increasingly connected global society: Student work will demonstrate awareness of its social, economic, technical, or ethical impact

**Program objective 3. Program will prepare students to hold positions of leadership in academic, government, non-profit and industry organizations**

Leadership: Students will demonstrate leadership through positions held in professional activities

1. **Program assessment methods- direct methods**

The following methods will be implemented annually and for each master’s degree candidate. Test results and faculty review forms for each method will be gathered in student file:

1. Final exam score in core theory and method course of \_\_ will be gathered into a report every even number year.
2. Final essay score in core theory and methods course of \_\_ will be gathered into a report every even number year.
3. Final exam or essay score in specialization course in student’s track will be gathered into a report every odd number year. (Track titles and chosen courses are: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_).
4. Master’s thesis, written form, will be reviewed by faculty committee using the Master’s Thesis Review Form every odd number year.
5. Awards, fellowships and other distinctions given by the program, University of Rochester, or external organizations
6. Data gathered on leadership positions held by enrolled students and alumni- reported by students and alumni in Graduating Student Survey and Alumni Survey, respectively
7. **Program assessment methods- indirect methods**

The following indirect methods will be implemented as noted:

1. Graduating Student Survey will be a web based survey distributed annually by the UR College Director of Assessment. The survey will include questions that ask students to rate the importance of program learning outcome for career plans and to self assess development of learning for selected program learning outcomes.
2. Alumni Survey will be a web based survey distributed by the UR College Director of Assessment every 5 years beginning in 2011-2012. The survey will include questions that ask alumni to rate importance of program learning outcomes for current career and to self assess development of learning for selected program learning outcomes.
3. Post-graduation career data- reported by students and alumni in above surveys
4. **Program assessment data review plan**
5. Data gathered in theory and methods course exams will be tabulated every other even number year by program staff, and reviewed by the program curriculum committee.
6. Data gathered in Master’s Thesis Review Forms will be tabulated by program staff every other odd year, and reviewed by the program curriculum committee.
7. Data gathered in Graduating Student Survey will be reported annually to the program curriculum committee by the College Director of Assessment, and reviewed by the committee each year.
8. Data gathered in the Alumni Survey will be reported every 5 years, beginning in 2011-2012, to the program curriculum committee by the College Director of Assessment, and reviewed by the committee at that time.
9. **Alignment of program learning outcomes and program assessment methods**

**Table 1. Alignment of program learning outcomes and program assessment methods**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Program learning outcome category** | **Program learning outcome** | **Assessment method**  **and**  **Standard for method** |
| Core knowledge, methods | Students will demonstrate broad level of knowledge of the theories and methods in the field | **DIRECT METHODS**  **Core theory and methods course exam in course number \_\_\_**  Standard: all students will receive grade or score of \_\_\_ on final exams in each course  **Core theory and methods essay in course number \_\_\_**  Standard: all students will receive grade or score of \_\_\_ on essay  **Master’s thesis- written**  Standard: all students will receive an average score of \_\_\_ from reviewers for each pertinent criterion listed in Master’s Thesis Review Form (1) |
| Specialization knowledge, methods, and scholarship | Students will demonstrate broad level of knowledge of the theories and methods within specialized area(s) including the areas of… | **DIRECT METHODS**  **Specialization track 1, \_\_\_\_, course exam or essay**  Standard: all students will receive grade or score of \_\_\_ on specialization exam or essay    **Specialization track 2, \_\_\_\_, course exam or essay**  Standard: all students will receive grade or score of \_\_\_ on specialization exam or essay  **Master’s thesis- written**  Standard: all students will receive an average score of \_\_\_ from reviewers for each pertinent criterion listed in Master’s Thesis Review Form (1) |
| Research/ Methods | Conduct skillful research including gathering, processing, analysis, drawing conclusions  Students will make considered choices in design of a research study | **DIRECT METHODS**  **Master’s thesis- written**  Standard: all students will receive an average score of \_\_\_ from reviewers for each pertinent criterion listed in Master’s Thesis Review Form (1)  **INDIRECT METHODS**  **Graduating student survey (2)**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome  **Alumni survey (3)**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome |
| Written communication | Students will convey ideas or arguments in clear, concise, well organized papers | **DIRECT METHODS**  **Master’s thesis- written**  Standard: all students will receive an average score of \_\_\_ from reviewers for each pertinent criterion listed in Master’s Thesis Review Form (1)    **INDIRECT METHODS**  **Graduating student survey**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome  **Alumni survey**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome |
| Oral communication | Students will convey ideas in cogent, persuasive, and organized presentations | **DIRECT METHODS**  **Master’s thesis- oral presentation**  Standard: all students will receive an average score of \_\_\_ from reviewers for each pertinent criterion listed in Master’s Thesis Review Form (1)  **INDIRECT METHODS**  **Graduating student survey (2)**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome  **Alumni survey (3)**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome |
| Performance/ production/ showing | Students will effectively perform/ produce/ present original works | **DIRECT METHODS**  **Jury review**  Standard: all students’ performance/ production/ showing will meet jury standards |
| Professional ethics | Students will appreciate the importance of and demonstrate a responsible, ethical manner in professional work | **INDIRECT METHODS**  **Graduating student survey (2)**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome  **Alumni survey (3)**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome |
| Teamwork | Students will demonstrate ability to work with others on projects, including sharing work involved in development of initial ideas and project plan, discussion of progress, and completion of work | **INDIRECT METHODS**  **Graduating student survey (5)**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome  **Alumni survey (6)**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome |
| Leadership | Students will demonstrate leadership through positions held in professional activities | **DIRECT METHODS**  **Student and alumni leadership data**  **INDIRECT METHODS**  **Graduating student survey (5)**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome  **Alumni survey (6)**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome |
| Creativity/ Innovation/ entrepreneur- ship | Students will demonstrate abilities in creativity/ innovation/ entrepreneurship through development of new inventions, patents, publications, productions, performances, public or private organizations | **DIRECT METHODS**  **Student and alumni data on inventions, patents, publications, productions, performances, public or private organizations**  **INDIRECT METHODS**  **Graduating student survey (5)**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome  **Alumni survey (6)**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome |
| Global citizenship/ broad impact | Students will demonstrate appreciation for one’s role as a member of an increasingly connected global society  Student work will demonstrate awareness of its social, economic, technical, or ethical impact | **DIRECT METHODS**  **Master’s thesis- written**  Standard: all students will receive an average score of \_\_\_ from reviewers for each pertinent criterion listed in Master’s Thesis Review Form (1)    **INDIRECT METHODS**  **Graduating student survey (2)**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome  **Alumni survey (3)**  Standard: 80% of survey respondents will be satisfied with learning for this outcome |

1. See attached Master’s Thesis Review Form
2. Graduating Student Survey will be a web based survey distributed annually by the UR College Director of Assessment. The survey will include questions that ask students to rate the importance of program learning outcome for career plans and to self assess development of learning for selected program learning outcomes.
3. Alumni Survey will be a web based survey distributed by the UR College Director of Assessment every 5 years beginning in 2011-2012. The survey will include questions that ask alumni to rate importance of program learning outcomes for current career and to self assess development of learning for selected program learning outcomes.