Academic Program Assessment Report

Assessment is a term commonly used to encompass the process of gathering and using evidence to guide improvements.

SACSCOC requires that an institution "<u>identifies</u> expected outcomes, <u>assesses</u> the extent to which it achieves these outcomes, and <u>provides evidence of seeking improvement</u> based on analysis of the results".

Be sure to SAVE your progress as you work!

Academic Program
Exercise Science, M.S.

Submission Year
2024-2025

Assessment Coordinator Name
Martin Carmichael

Enter Assessment Coordinator Email
mcarmichael@lander.edu

Program Goal

Goal

Goal 1

Program Goals are broad and overarching statements about the skills, knowledge, and dispositions students are expected to gain by the end of their course of study (big picture). They support the Institution's Mission/Goals.

Program Goal
To enhance student understanding of human physiology & biomechanics in healthy and diseased populations, and demonstrate advanced knowledge in research methodology, data acquisition & interpretation.

Pillar of Success Supported
High-Demand, Market-Driven Programs

Outcomes

Outcome 1

Outcomes are specific, **measurable** statements that reflect the broader goals.

Academic Programs are required to develop **Student Learning Outcomes**, which describe knowledge, skills, and values that students are expected to gain as a result of their educational experiences.

Academic Programs may also develop **Operational Outcomes**, which describe the level of performance of an operational aspect of a program or office (ex. graduation rates, retention, employment data).

Most goals have at least two outcomes measured.

What type of Outcome would you like to add?

Student Learning Outcome

Enter Outcome
Percent of students who are "first-time test takers" and achieved a score of 70% or
higher on the MS Comprehensive Exam.

Timeframe for this Outcome
Academic Year 2023-2024

Performance Target for "Met"
At least 80% of "first-time test takers" achieve a score of 70% or higher.

Performance Target for "Partially Met"
70-79% of "first-time test takers" achieve a score of 70% or higher.

Performance Target for "Not Met"
<70% of "first-time test takers" achieve a score of 70% or higher.

Assessment Measure Used	**Frequency of Assessment**
Comprehensive Exam.	Every semester for graduating students.

Data Collected for this Timeframe (Results)	**Score (Met=3, Partially Met=2, Not Met=1)**
50%	1

Comments/Narrative
The expected outcome was not met for this subtest. Two of the four students taking the Comprehensive
Exam scored 70% or higher. The majority of the highest performing students enrolled in the program to
date have chosen to perform a thesis in lieu of taking the exam. We suspect as student enrollment
continues to increase and more students take the exam, performance on this Outcome will improve.
There has also been some faculty turnover, and we suspect student performance will improve with the
stability that will come from the long-term commitment of our replacement hire.

Resources Needed to Meet/Sustain Results
50,000

Explanation of How Resources Will Be Used
The addition of a full-time teaching position for the Exercise Science MS program would allow for more
consistent teaching assignments, ensure the highest quality student experience and removal of
overload from current faculty.

Goal Summary

Goal Summary/Comments
A potential strategy that may be employed is to administer a "Pre-Test" to both assess incoming students'
level of knowledge and to provide them with a practice test with similarly constructed questions taken in
the same environment as the Comprehensive exam. This may partially address the problem of motivating
students to
prepare for and perform as well as possible on this exam.

Changes Made/Proposed Related to Goal
We have had department discussions to address teaching assignments that better align with the
particular strengths of our faculty. As comfort is built, we feel that teaching effectiveness will also
increase. That should lead to improvements in this outcome.

Upload Rubrics/Other Files

Goal 2

Program Goals are broad and overarching statements about the skills, knowledge, and dispositions students are expected to gain by the end of their course of study (big picture). They support the Institution's Mission/Goals.

Program Goal
To provide an environment where students can review and/or author unique scientific research. Students are required to review scientific research articles in several courses and those students opting for the Thesis track will, with the help of their advisor, select a research topic and author a scientific review paper.

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Academic Programs may also develop **Operational Outcomes**, which describe the level of performance of an operational aspect of a program or office (ex. graduation rates, retention, employment data).

Most goals have at least two outcomes measured.

What type of Outcome would you like to add?
Student Learning Outcome

Enter Outcome
Percent of students that pass their review article assignment as determined by the members of their thesis committee.

Timeframe for this Outcome
Academic Year 2023-2024

Performance Target for "Met"
At least 80% of students who pass their review article assignment as determined by the members of their thesis committee.

Performance Target for "Partially Met"
70-79% of students who pass their review article assignment as determined by the members of their thesis committee.

Performance Target for "Not Met"
<70% of students who pass their review article assignment as determined by the members of their thesis committee.

Assessment Measure Used
Decision of thesis committee.

Frequency of Assessment
Every Summer semester.

Data Collected for this Timeframe (Results)
Summer 2024

Score (Met=3, Partially Met=2, Not Met=1)
3

Comments/Narrative
The expected outcome was met for the number of students passing their review article assignment as determined by the members of their thesis committee.

Resources Needed to Meet/Sustain Results
50,000

Explanation of How Resources Will Be Used
The addition of a full-time teaching position for the Exercise Science MS program would allow for more consistent teaching assignments, ensure the highest quality student experience and removal of overload from current faculty.

Goal Summary

Goal Summary/Comments
The expected outcome was met for this Program goal. It is likely the added challenge of this program option (authoring a review article) attracts higher motivated students and this along with the one-on-one mentorship provided by faculty contribute to this success.

Changes Made/Proposed Related to Goal
N/A

Upload Rubrics/Other Files

Goal 3

Program Goals are broad and overarching statements about the skills, knowledge, and dispositions students are expected to gain by the end of their course of study (big picture). They support the Institution's Mission/Goals.

Program Goal
Determine the percentage of MS Exercise Science graduates that are either 1) employed within their field of study or 2) attending graduate school in a related field of study within one year of graduation.

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Outcome 1

Outcomes are specific, **measurable** statements that reflect the broader goals.

Academic Programs are required to develop **Student Learning Outcomes**, which describe knowledge, skills, and values that students are expected to gain as a result of their educational experiences.

Academic Programs may also develop **Operational Outcomes**, which describe the level of

performance of an operational aspect of a program or office (ex. graduation rates, retention, employment data).

Most goals have at least two outcomes measured.

What type of Outcome would you like to add?
Operational Outcome

Enter Outcome
Percentage of MS Exercise Science graduates that are either 1) employed within the field of study or 2) attending graduate school in a related field of study within one year of graduation.

Timeframe for this Outcome
Academic Year 2024-2025

Performance Target for "Met"
At least 80% of MS Exercise Science graduates are either 1) employed within the field of study or 2) attending graduate school in a related field of study within one year of graduation.

Performance Target for "Partially Met"
70-79% of MS Exercise Science graduates are either 1) employed within the field of study or 2) attending graduate school in a related field of study within one year of graduation.

Performance Target for "Not Met"
<70% of MS Exercise Science graduates are either 1) employed within the field of study or 2) attending graduate school in a related field of study within one year of graduation.

Assessment Measure Used	**Frequency of Assessment**
Graduate survey deployed by Graduate Program Director approximately 1-year post graduation.	At the end of every Summer semester beginning 2025.

Data Collected for this Timeframe (Results)	**Score (Met=3, Partially Met=2, Not Met=1)**
N/A	

Comments/Narrative
We have yet to reach our first assessment period but due to departmental infrastructure that has been constructed we believe we are on track to provide this information next year.

Resources Needed to Meet/Sustain Results
50,000

Explanation of How Resources Will Be Used
The addition of a full-time teaching position for the Exercise Science MS program would allow for more consistent teaching assignments, ensure the highest quality student experience and removal of overload from current faculty.

Goal Summary

Goal Summary/Comments
Our hope is that we are able to track the professional success of our MS graduates once they leave our program. We recognize that status after one year does not define professional success. However, we would like to be able to communicate with future students as well as Admissions, about our success in

placing students within the field.

Changes Made/Proposed Related to Goal
N/A

Upload Rubrics/Other Files

Goal 4

Program Goals are broad and overarching statements about the skills, knowledge, and dispositions students are expected to gain by the end of their course of study (big picture). They support the Institution's Mission/Goals.

Program Goal
To comply with Program Productivity standards as defined by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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Academic Programs may also develop **Operational Outcomes**, which describe the level of performance of an operational aspect of a program or office (ex. graduation rates, retention, employment data).

Most goals have at least two outcomes measured.

What type of Outcome would you like to add?
Operational Outcome

Enter Outcome
Major Enrollment

Timeframe for this Outcome
Academic Year 2027-2028

Performance Target for "Met"
Using a five-year rolling average, the number of students enrolled in the MS Program is greater than or equal to 6.

Performance Target for "Partially Met"
Not Applicable

Performance Target for "Not Met"
Using a five-year rolling average, the number of students enrolled in the MS Program is less than 6.

Assessment Measure Used
Enrollment & Graduate data from Academic Affairs
office.

Frequency of Assessment
Annually

Data Collected for this Timeframe (Results)
9.5

Score (Met=3, Partially Met=2, Not Met=1)
3

Comments/Narrative
Though we have yet to reach our fifth year of Program implementation our two-year average student enrollment has exceeded our goal of 6.

Resources Needed to Meet/Sustain Results
50,000

Explanation of How Resources Will Be Used
The addition of a full-time teaching position for the Exercise Science MS program would allow for more consistent teaching assignments, ensure the highest quality student experience and removal of overload from current faculty.

Outcome 2

Outcomes are specific, **measurable** statements that reflect the broader goals.

Academic Programs are required to develop **Student Learning Outcomes**, which describe knowledge, skills, and values that students are expected to gain as a result of their educational experiences.

Academic Programs may also develop **Operational Outcomes**, which describe the level of performance of an operational aspect of a program or office (ex. graduation rates, retention, employment data).

Most goals have at least two outcomes measured.

What type of Outcome would you like to add?
Operational Outcome

Enter Outcome
Completions (Degrees Awarded)

Timeframe for this Outcome
Academic Year 2023-2024

Performance Target for "Met"
Using a five-year rolling average, the number of degrees awarded in the MS Program is greater than or equal to 3.

Performance Target for "Partially Met"
N/A

Performance Target for "Not Met"
Using a five-year rolling average, the number of degrees awarded in the MS Program is less than 3.

Assessment Measure Used

Frequency of Assessment

Enrollment & Graduate data from Academic Affairs   Annually
office.

Data Collected for this Timeframe (Results)
6

Score (Met=3, Partially Met=2, Not Met=1)
3

Comments/Narrative
Though we have yet to reach our 5th year of Program implementation we have seen our first cohort of graduates (n=6) which exceeded our goal of 4.

Resources Needed to Meet/Sustain Results
50,000

Explanation of How Resources Will Be Used
The addition of a full-time teaching position for the Exercise Science MS program would allow for more consistent teaching assignments, ensure the highest quality student experience and removal of overload from current faculty.

Goal Summary

Goal Summary/Comments
At the start of the third year of our Program's existence we have seen both 'Enrollment' and 'Degrees Awarded' goals exceeded. We will continue to focus on recruitment and providing a quality educational experience to our students and expect to continue on this trend.

Changes Made/Proposed Related to Goal
N/A

Upload Rubrics/Other Files

Goal 5

Program Goals are broad and overarching statements about the skills, knowledge, and dispositions students are expected to gain by the end of their course of study (big picture). They support the Institution's Mission/Goals.

Program Goal
Demonstrate skills of assessment and laboratory methods.

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Outcomes

Outcome 1

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Academic Programs may also develop **Operational Outcomes**, which describe the level of performance of an operational aspect of a program or office (ex. graduation rates, retention,

employment data).

Most goals have at least two outcomes measured.

What type of Outcome would you like to add?
Student Learning Outcome

Enter Outcome
Students will exhibit expertise in principles and techniques along with the current technologies/methods used in the assessment of physical fitness and health.

Timeframe for this Outcome
2023-2024

Performance Target for "Met"
At least 80% of students achieve a score of 70% or higher on written and practical assessments in all clinical courses (PEES 713 - Rehabilitative Exercise, PEES 762 - Advanced Exercise/Fitness Assessment, PEES 763 - Exercise Prescription & Chronic Disease Management, PEES 764 - Perspectives for Special Populations and PEES 765 - Exercise Testing for Clinical Populations).

Performance Target for "Partially Met"
70-79% of students achieve a score of 70% or higher on written and practical assessments in all clinical courses (PEES 713 - Rehabilitative Exercise, PEES 762 - Advanced Exercise/Fitness Assessment, PEES 763 - Exercise Prescription & Chronic Disease Management, PEES 764 - Perspectives for Special Populations and PEES 765 - Exercise Testing for Clinical Populations).

Performance Target for "Not Met"
<70% of students achieve a score of 70% or higher on written and practical assessments in all clinical courses (PEES 713 - Rehabilitative Exercise, PEES 762 - Advanced Exercise/Fitness Assessment, PEES 763 - Exercise Prescription & Chronic Disease Management, PEES 764 - Perspectives for Special Populations and PEES 765 - Exercise Testing for Clinical Populations).

Assessment Measure Used	**Frequency of Assessment**
Combined assessment scores from clinical courses.	Every Summer beginning 2024.

Data Collected for this Timeframe (Results)	**Score (Met=3, Partially Met=2, Not Met=1)**
75%	2

Comments/Narrative
The expected outcome of students exhibiting expertise in principles and techniques along with the current technologies/methods used in the assessment of physical fitness and health was partially met. Three of the four students thus far required to attempt the comprehensive examination have scored 70% or higher. We expect as student enrollment continues to increase and more students take the exam, performance on this Outcome will improve. There has also been some faculty turnover, and we suspect student performance will improve with the stability that will come from the long-term commitment of our replacement hire.

Resources Needed to Meet/Sustain Results
50,000

Explanation of How Resources Will Be Used
The addition of a full-time teaching position for the Exercise Science MS program would allow for more

consistent teaching assignments, ensure the highest quality student experience and removal of overload from current faculty.

Goal Summary

Goal Summary/Comments
As discussed, a potential strategy that may improve student performance on this Outcome, will be to require a "Pre-Test" that will both assess incoming students' level of knowledge and to provide them with a practice test with similarly constructed questions taken in the same environment as the Comprehensive exam.

Changes Made/Proposed Related to Goal
Implementation of a "Pre-Test".

Upload Rubrics/Other Files

Dean's Email Address
shuntbarron@lander.edu

Approved by Dean?

Signature of Dean

Comments from Dean's Review
Please do not repeat the same request for each goal for resources - selecting the most critical area for that resource and citing it there is adequate. A new hire includes salary and another 44% for benefits, so please keep that in mind when providing estimated costs for resources. Also, please keep in mind that by year 5, all programs must have 12 students enrolled on a five-year rolling average and graduate 8 students each year on a five-year rolling average to be considered adequately productive in the eyes of CHE. Consider using these numbers to set your goals moving forward.

Please work with Chelsey Driver and the chair to develop a better system for collecting permanent emails and phone numbers for graduating students; this has shown to be a challenge across areas in PEES. This would be a useful operational outcome to work toward this academic year.