

Master of Science in Engineering M.S.

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose

Institutional Mission Reference

The M.S. in Engineering offers graduate students a high quality degree program in Engineering that meets the national standard of excellence. Program faculty are committed to quality teaching and the discovery of new knowledge. The MS Engineering program supports the University's mission of providing advanced professional education for the Hampton Roads area and the Commonwealth.

Institutional Goal(s) Supported

The M.S. Engineering program supports University goals of (a) quality graduate academic programs, (b) quality teaching, (c) discovery of new knowledge, and (d) community service. (See pages 3-4 of the Old Dominion University Catalog or pages 8-9 of the Strategic Plan.) The MS Engineering also supports Strategic Initiative 2 (Excellent Graduate Programs). (See Old Dominion University Strategic Plan.)

Intended Educational (Student) Outcomes, Methods for Assessment, Criteria for Success, Assessment Results, and Use of Results

Intended Outcome 1

Graduates have sufficient advanced knowledge in their chosen field.

Method for Assessing Outcome 1 and Criterion for Success: At least 80% of graduates demonstrate a sufficient depth of knowledge and an ability to synthesize concepts during the oral defense of their thesis before their thesis committee. Committee members will rate graduation candidates on a high/medium/low pass scale and provide specific comments on student strengths and weaknesses. Only high and medium passes will be considered indications of success with respect to this outcome.

Intended Outcome 2

Graduates have improved their employability, promotability, and their prospects for career advancement.

Method for Assessing Outcome 2 and Criterion for Success: Two (or more) years after graduation, 80% of graduates say that their chances for employment, promotion, or career advancement were enhanced because of the program. Specific comments about the most and least beneficial aspects of the program will be sought.

Intended Outcome 3

Graduates are satisfied with their academic program and their experience at Old

Dominion University.

Method for Assessing Outcome 3 and Criterion for Success: Two (or more) years after graduation, at least 80% of graduates say that they are satisfied with their program and that they would recommend the program to others. Specific comments about program strengths and weaknesses will be sought.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 3 and Criterion for Success: At least 80% of graduation candidates say they are satisfied with their program and that they would recommend the program to others. Specific comments about program strengths and weaknesses will be sought.

Intended Outcome 4

Students completing theses are able to conduct research and to report the results of that research in a professional forum.

Method for Assessing Outcome 4 and Criterion for Success: The research of at least 80% of thesis graduates is judged a high or medium pass on a high/medium/low pass scale by a committee of faculty.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 4 and Criterion for Success: 80% of graduates present the results of their research at a national/international conference and/or in a peer review journal.

Intended Outcome 5

Employers are satisfied with the preparation and performance of program graduates.

Method for Assessing Outcome 5 and Criterion for Success: 80% of employers employing graduates of the program are satisfied with the preparation and qualifications of program graduates.