

Chemistry M.S.

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose

Institutional Mission Reference

Old Dominion University Catalog 1998 - 2000; Old Dominion University's graduate offerings are focused on society's need for advanced professional education and on specialized programs at the master's and doctoral levels for which the institution is prepared through unusual strength of faculty or special geographic advantages. All graduate programs meet national standards of excellence.

Institutional Goal(s) Supported

Academic Programs - a) quality 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 Chemistry and Biochemistry MS Program 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

Students will communicate effectively in writing.

Method for Assessing Outcome 1 and Criterion for Success: 100% of students will present a thesis that will be judged satisfactory and 85% will be viewed as good or excellent. (as judged by a team of three faculty)

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 1: All graduating students have presented theses that have met high writing standards.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 1 to Improve Academic Program: We will continue to uphold high writing standards

Intended Outcome 2

Students will be able to communicate orally

Method for Assessing Outcome 2 and Criterion for Success: Students will present a seminar which will be assessed by the faculty. 100% of the students must be judged satisfactory and 85% good or excellent.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 2: The seminars were of very high quality.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 2 and Criterion for Success: Students will give an oral presentation of their thesis. 100% of the students must be judged satisfactory and 85% good or excellent. (as judged by a team of three faculty.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 2: 85% of the students were judged to be good

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 2 to Improve Academic Program: We will continue rigid oral requirements.

Intended Outcome 3

Students will use computers effectively to present information.

Method for Assessing Outcome 3 and Criterion for Success: All students will use a word processing program to prepare the thesis; 100% will be good or excellent on the appearance of the thesis.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 3: All student used computers effectively.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 3 and Criterion for Success: All students will use spreadsheets and graphical programs to present their data. 100% will be good or excellent on the appearance.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 3: The graphical portions of their presentations was excellent. The use of programs such as powerpoint was 100%.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 3 to Improve Academic Program: More computers will be made available to students as well as software.

Intended Outcome 4

Students will demonstrate knowledge of the major theories and empirical findings in the field of either Chemistry or Biochemistry.

Method for Assessing Outcome 4 and Criterion for Success: All students will pass the oral comprehensive.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 4: All students passed the oral comprehensive with ease.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 4 to Improve Academic Program: The oral comprehensive will continue