

Master of Science in Education---Reading Education Masters

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose

Institutional Mission Reference

As noted in the University Catalogue, the Darden College of Education and the University have mission statements that include a focus upon urban education, the advancement of knowledge and the pursuit of truth, to provide service to the community, and to offer excellence in teaching and in scholarship.

Institutional Goal(s) Supported

1. To obtain practical knowledge in one's discipline, 2. To obtain content and theoretical knowledge in one's discipline, 3. To be able to understand, apply, and conduct in one's discipline, 4. To be sensitive to issues of social and cultural diversity, 5. To offer a service to the community, 6. To provide excellence in teaching by faculty, 7. To provide proficiencies that are aligned with professional, state and national standards.

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

Intended Outcome 1

To have students demonstrate advanced knowledge in how each of these content areas are important to reading: (1) foundations, survey and methods; (2) both clinical and classroom assessment; (3) language development; (4) content area studies; (5) administration and supervision; (6) use of technology; (7) clinical and classroom practica

Method for Assessing Outcome 1 and Criterion for Success: Successful passing of comprehensive exams.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 1: Comprehensive Exams were administered on the third Saturday of March and October. All students passed the examinations that were given during 2002 academic year and in the spring of 2003. The result was communicated to the faculty

Intended Outcome 2

Students will communicate effectively in writing, and will demonstrate a knowledge of the importance of teaching reading and writing in the classroom.

Method for Assessing Outcome 2 and Criterion for Success: All students will pass the writing exit exam

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 2: All students passed the writing exit exam.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 2 and Criterion for Success: All students will successfully demonstrate writing competence throughout their coursework and during comprehensive examinations. Especially students will demonstrate writing ability in research papers submitted in ECI 635 and ECI 637 and in lesson plans they have to write throughout the program.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 2: Research papers have been collected and graded by the faculty in ECI 635 and ECI 637. All students successfully passed the comprehensive examinations. Lesson plans have been collected and graded in courses throughout the program.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 2 to Improve Academic Program: Rubrics have been established in each course for grading student writing. Lessons have been created on the importance of teaching writing in the classroom. Students are given a prep session one month before the comprehensive examinations where a lesson on how to write clearly and concisely for comprehensive examinations is given.

Intended Outcome 3

Students will demonstrate and understand proper uses of technology in the classroom.

Method for Assessing Outcome 3 and Criterion for Success: A passing grade for ECI 530 or a passing grade for a special topics course given to field based cohorts called ECI 695: Computers for the Reading Specialist.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 3: All students passed ECI 530 - Microcomputers and ECI 695: Computers for the Reading Specialist.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 3 and Criterion for Success: Students will demonstrate competence in using presentation software in subsequent courses and will demonstrate Internet research skills in ECI 637.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 3: Students are asked to give a power point presentation in ECI 685. Also students must create a "paperless" research paper in ECI 637, where all aspects of the paper are completed electronically.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 3 to Improve Academic Program: Papers and power point presentations are put on the web for new students to peruse and read.

Intended Outcome 4

To provide each year an ongoing review of strengths and weaknesses of the program

Method for Assessing Outcome 4 and Criterion for Success: Assessment questionnaire to students who have completed the program of study and graduated. Students will be asked specific questions for feedback about the program.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 4: Senior exit survey/interviews were conducted in the last courses (ECI 693, ECI 637, ECI 694) in the reading sequence in spring and summer of 2003.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 4 and Criterion for Success: An unofficial review Board of former professors and alumni of our program will give needed input on how the program can be changed and/or improved. The Board will review the results of the summary of alumni.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 4: Alumni surveys were sent to graduates in reading. The review is conducted each year and is currently being done in the fall of 2003. During 2003, the information from the 2002 review was used to help improve the core courses and to also improve electives in the program.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 4 and Criterion for Success: Employers of our graduates, school principals and other administrators, are now being surveyed to ascertain what they feel is the quality of our new graduates.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 4: Surveys will be collected from principals by November 15, 2003.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 4 to Improve Academic Program: We will use both the alumni surveys and the employer surveys to make adjustments and improve the quality of our offerings in particular and our program in general.

Intended Outcome 5

To show excellence in the teaching by program faculty.

Method for Assessing Outcome 5 and Criterion for Success: Yearly teaching portfolio review of non-tenured faculty members.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 5: Yearly teaching portfolio reviews were done for all Reading faculty members who are non-tenured. Feedback on portfolios was provided.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 5 and Criterion for Success: Five year review of teaching portfolio of tenured faculty members.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 5: Review of quantitative and qualitative evaluations of tenure-track, tenured, and adjunct faculty by Chairperson, Dean, and other administrators.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 5 to Improve Academic Program: Feedback on teaching quality has been provided to tenure-track, tenured, and adjunct faculty.

Intended Outcome 6

Students will understand and investigate educational research.

Method for Assessing Outcome 6 and Criterion for Success: Successful completion of ECI 635: Research Methods in Education.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 6: All students completed ECI 635.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 6 and Criterion for Success: Successful completion of problems paper in ECI 637.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 6: Students successfully completed both ECI 635 and ECI 637.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 6: Completion of a formal research paper in ECI 637 and presentation of the paper orally. The paper is written in formal APA style and placed in both the Learning Resource Center and on the C & I web site for storage and student retrieval.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 6 to Improve Academic Program: Students have improved in their ability to conduct research, report about research, and write a formal research paper.

Intended Outcome 7

Program working cooperatively with the community to work with children with reading deficiencies and problems

Method for Assessing Outcome 7 and Criterion for Success: All students in the program will take a practicum where they work in depth in reading, where one or several students who come to the Reading Center because of reading problems. Students will be rated Satisfactory or higher on practicum Supervisor Rating Forms.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 7: All students successfully completed Reading Practicum.

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 7 and Criterion for Success: Parents of students being helped in the Reading Center will be interviewed and sent surveys to determine whether their children were helped by the community service that was provided.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 7: Parents and community members were surveyed to receive feedback about services received from the Reading Center. Positive input was received.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 7 to Improve Academic Program: Reviews from parents have helped us improve program.

Intended Outcome 8

To provide students with faculty who are actively pursuing the highest levels of scholarship.

Method for Assessing Outcome 8 and Criterion for Success: Yearly evaluation of faculty through the Faculty Information Summary which is turned in to the chair of the department. Non-tenured faculty turn reports in to chair in the fall, and tenured faculty turn reports in to the chair in February.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 8: Faculty members in Reading Program were evaluated based on Faculty Information Summary.

Use of Assessment Results from Intended Outcome 8 to Improve Academic Program: Information was collected on the faculty as to their scholarship and publication record. This information was used to help faculty evaluate themselves in scholarship and thereby create clear objectives for their scholarship in the future.

Intended Outcome 9

Work effectively with diverse ethnic, racial, socio-economic groups as well as show knowledge of the physical, emotional, and maturational development of all children.

Method for Assessing Outcome 9 and Criterion for Success: MS students will be rated Satisfactory or higher on practicum Supervisor Rating Forms. Diverse classroom conditions are provided by the practicum environment. Also, students in the program will relate to our diverse faculty (the reading faculty has rich diversity of ethnicity and gender).

Summary of Assessment Data Collected for Outcome 9: All MS students in reading received Satisfactory or higher rating in the Reading Practicum from the Supervisor

Alternate Method for Assessing Outcome 9 and Criterion for Success (*NOTE: Alternate methods are optional*): Students in ECI 686: Language Development and Reading, are asked to interview persons from other countries and differing ethnic backgrounds.

Summary of Assessment Data Collected, Alternate Method for Outcome 9: Student interviews have been collected of persons from diverse cultural backgrounds.