

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS
Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan
Geology Graduate M.S. Program

College of Natural Science and Mathematics

MISSION STATEMENT: The Department of Geology & Geophysics educates all levels of students in geological and geophysical principles through research, classroom and field-based instruction. The scholarly and research activities of the department enhance its educational programs to stimulate inquiry and develop learning skills for the next generation of geoscientists.

GOALS: To prepare graduates for careers in the geosciences by developing the technical expertise and critical thinking skills necessary to define, solve, and communicate scientific problems.

Intended Objectives/Outcomes	Assessment Criteria and Procedures	Implementation (what, when, who)
Graduates attain a level of technical ability and knowledge to function as professionals in their discipline.	Students will demonstrate their abilities and progress through presentations, manuscripts, and annual committee meetings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual progress reports will be reviewed by faculty to assure program goals are being met. • List of peer reviewed publications and conference presentations will be compiled and reviewed annually.
Masters graduates have performed research using technical and problem solving skills to contribute to their field.	Graduates will contribute to the peer-reviewed literature and present work at conferences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written thesis proposals will be reviewed by faculty committees (Capstone Project or Thesis Rubric). • Oral comprehensive examinations' quality will be assessed by faculty committees on a revised oral presentation rubric. • Thesis defense quality will be assessed by audience and faculty committee (Capstone Project or Thesis Rubric)
Communication/ presentation skills are consistent with professional standards.	<p>Graduate students will have experience in giving oral presentations at conferences.</p> <p>They will gain experience preparing peer-reviewed manuscripts and development of research proposals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey of graduate students and student committees (including oral defenses and exams) will include questions to assess their progress towards the stated objective (Capstone Project or Thesis Rubric). • List of peer reviewed publications and conference presentations will be compiled and reviewed

		<p>annually.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will assess the presentation/writing skills improvement for students who take the optional GEOS 675.
<p>Graduates obtain employment or continue education in the field following graduation.</p>	<p>Students will be employed or continue education in a related field within one year after graduation or receive requested mentoring towards employment or continued education.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduates will be surveyed (Graduate Student Exit Survey and Feedback Seminar) • Faculty will be surveyed annually regarding recent graduates