DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Assessment of Student Learning for Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Agronomy

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Knowledge or understanding in one or more specialty areas of agronomy

2. Ability to apply knowledge and skills of their profession to the design, analysis, and interpretation of research

3. Ability to use different forms of communication to transfer knowledge to a variety of clientele, colleagues, and members of the community

Alignment Matrix for Ph.D. Program

	Required Courses/Experiences				
Student Learning Outcomes	Graduate Courses	AGRON 810 Seminar	Preliminary Exam	Dissertation	Final Oral Exam
Degree Program SLOs					
1. Knowledge or understanding in one or more specialty areas of agronomy	X		A	A,X	A
2. Ability to apply knowledge and skills of their profession to the design, analysis, and interpretation of research		X	A	A,X	A
3. Ability to use different forms of communication to transfer knowledge to a variety of clientele, colleagues, and members of the community		X	A	A,X	A
Graduate Council SLOs					
1. Knowledge	X		A	A,X	A
2. Skills	X	X	A	A,X	A
3. Attitude and professional conduct		X	A	A,X	A

X: Indicates courses or experiences in which students have the opportunity to learn the outcome.
A: Indicates courses or experiences in which student performance is used for program-level assessment of the outcome.

Summary of Progress in Assessment

In 2005, the Department initiated a procedure to assess the learning of students pursuing the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Agronomy. Student learning is currently assessed using questionnaires that address the learning outcomes listed above. A *Graduate Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Questionnaire* is completed by graduate advisors and committee members for each student at the time of the thesis defense. Graduate students complete a *Department of Agronomy Graduate Student Exit Survey* and discuss their responses with the Department Head. Responses from both questionnaires are summarized and evaluated annually, and the results are used to identify opportunities for program improvement.