

Academic Year 2025-2026

MS in Applied Psychology - MS-MSAP Learning Outcomes

Research Knowledge and Critical Thinking **NOT MET**

Students will demonstrate acceptable levels of research knowledge and critical thinking as assessed on their research report.

MEASURES	RESULTS	ACTIONS
Faculty Rubric Measuring 9 Different Writing Elements of PSYC 5323 Research Paper Students in Advanced Research Methods (PSYC 5323) write a research report. A faculty developed rubric is used to score student performance. We assessed this paper on 9 criteria: research thesis statement, quality of the idea, grammar, introduction, method, results, discussion, reference quality, and APA style Direct - Assignment <i>Experimental Design: PSYC 5323</i> Target Students will average at least a score of 3.10 (out of 4) across all 9 rubric dimensions (thesis statement, quality of idea, style/grammar, introduction, method, results, discussion, reference quality, & APA style) of their Literature Review Paper. Rubric - PSYC 5323 Research Paper.doc	MET Summary PSYC 5323: Experimental Design Students averaged a score of 3.44 (out of 4) across all 9 rubric dimensions (thesis statement, quality of idea, style/grammar, introduction, method, results, discussion, reference quality, & APA style) of their Literature Review Paper. Analysis The first outcome for this SLO was met; therefore, no change in assessment strategy is needed.	Maintain Assessment Strategy The first outcome for this SLO was met; therefore, no change in assessment strategy is needed.
AACU Rubric Measuring Critical Thinking of PSYC 5323 Research Paper Faculty assess research reports written by graduate students enrolled in PSYC 5323 for evidence of critical thinking using an adapted version of the AACU VALUE rubric for Critical Thinking. Direct - Assignment <i>Experimental Design: PSYC 5323</i> Target Students are expected to show an overall average score of 3.10 across all dimensions of the AACU critical thinking rubric.	NOT MET Summary PSYC 5323: Experimental Design Students averaged a score of 2.95 across all dimensions of the AACU critical thinking rubric. Analysis The rubric for critical thinking is somewhat subjective; therefore, we will explore changing to a more objective and concrete rubric if possible.	Revise Measurement / Assessment IN PROGRESS The rubric for critical thinking is somewhat subjective; therefore, we will explore changing to a more objective and concrete rubric if possible. Recommended Due Date: 05/01/2027

Conclusion

The rubric for critical thinking is somewhat subjective; therefore, we will explore changing to a more objective and concrete rubric if possible.

Knowledge in the Discipline of Psychology **NOT MET**

Students will demonstrate broad-based knowledge representative of the current state of knowledge in the discipline of psychology.

MEASURES	RESULTS	ACTIONS
Comprehensive Examinations After common coursework and coursework specific to program tracks, all graduate students take comprehensive examinations at the end of their first year in the program. Comprehensive examination content varies from year to year within established areas that include: Research Design and Methodology, Psychometrics, and Multivariate Research Techniques. Students in the I/O track take additional coursework in Personnel and Social/Organizational Psychology; Clinical track students take coursework in Psychopathology and Psychotherapy. Direct - Other Target 100% of students should average at least 75% on each subtest of the comprehensive exams following written and oral evaluations.	NOT MET Summary Three out of six students (50%) obtained a score of at least 70% on each subtest of the comprehensive exams following written and oral evaluations. Analysis All three of the students who did not pass all of the qualification exam sections failed the Experimental Design and Multivariate sections. The third student also failed the Advanced Data Analysis section. All three students struggled somewhat in the Multivariate course during the spring semester. The instructor for that course was also teaching the course for the first time, which may have put these weaker students at a disadvantage.	Additional Training IN PROGRESS Two plans to improve this outcome are currently being implemented. 1) The instructor for the Experimental Design and Multivariate courses is holding several instructional sessions to help the three students better learn the material they did not pass on the qualification exams. 2) The same instructor is also revising the Multivariate course materials to improve student learning. Recommended Due Date: 01/01/2027

Pre-Preprofessional Position Preparedness **MET**

Students who complete a psychology master's degree at Lamar will be prepared to enter a pre-professional position.

MEASURES	RESULTS	ACTIONS
IO Track Practicum Graduate students in the I/O track complete a practicum in which they complete a research project for a host organization. At the conclusion of their practicum research project, students write a Research Report and present it to the host organization. A faculty developed rubric is used to score the I/O practicum student reports on several criteria: purpose of the project, organization, style & grammar, method, results, discussion, appendices, and executive summary. Direct - Portfolio <i>Consulting in Organizations: PSYC 5326</i> Target I/O track students will average at least 3.30 across all rubric dimensions (purpose of the project, organization, style & grammar, method, results, discussion, appendices, and executive summary). NOTE: This rubric is scored on a 1-4 scale.	MET Summary I/O track students averaged 3.81 (out of 4) across all rubric dimensions (purpose of the project, organization, style & grammar, method, results, discussion, appendices, and executive summary).	<i>No actions have been added.</i>

Rubric - I-O Practicum Report.doc		
Clinical Track Practicum Graduate students in the Clinical track complete 3 separate practicum assignments in which they see actual clients in the Psychology Clinic on campus. During these meetings with clients, students generate session reports. A faculty developed rubric is used to score these session reports on several criteria: opening section, symptoms, observations, assessment, plan, and style. Direct - Other <i>Practicum III: PSYC 5332</i> Target Clinical track students will average at least 2.50 (out of 3) across all rubric dimensions (opening section, symptoms, observations, assessment, plan, and style). Rubric - SOAP Notes Clinical Practicum.doc	MET Summary Clinical track students averaged 2.94 (out of 3) across all rubric dimensions (opening section, symptoms, observations, assessment, plan, and style).	<i>No actions have been added.</i>

General Outcome Actions

ACTIONS
Maintain Assessment Strategy We will continue to use this assessment strategy.

Conclusion

Both outcomes were met for this SLO; therefore, no action is deemed necessary.