

2007 MASTER PLAN/PROGRESS REPORT

Academic Program: BS Agricultural Sciences

Person Responsible: Chip LeMieux

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Mission: The Harold and Pearl Dripps Department of Agriculture supports the university mission of offering baccalaureate curricula distinguished by academic excellence. The Harold and Pearl Dripps Department of Agricultural Science offers degrees in Agricultural Sciences, Agricultural Science Education, and Wildlife Management. Concentrations offered in the Agricultural Sciences core are; Animal Science, Equine Science, Agribusiness, and General Agriculture. The goals of the Harold and Pearl Dripps Agricultural Department are:

1. To instill practical agricultural practices and application.
2. To prepare students for careers in agriculture.
3. To prepare students for graduate or professional school.
4. To introduce students to the role of research and biotechnology through agriculture.
5. To contribute to the intellectual development of students.
6. To enable students to effectively participate in and make significant contributions to contemporary society.

Institutional Mission Reference: At McNeese State University, a member of the University of Louisiana System, students cultivate skills for critical thinking and effective expression and gain an understanding of the global community. The learning and social environment integrates discipline-specific knowledge with the values of lifelong learning, ethical responsibility, and civic engagement.

Assessment Methods Utilized:

- Standardized Exam (nationally normed)
- Standardized Exam (state-normed)
- Major Field Examination
- Internally-developed Examination
- Student Opinion Survey (SOS)
- National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)
- Employer Survey
- Graduate Survey
- Alumni Survey
- Exit Survey/Interview/Exam
- Program-specific Survey
- Scoring of Essay
- Portfolio Evaluation
- Capstone Project
- Presentation
- Research Paper
- Research Project

Data Repository Location:

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- _____
- _____
- Departmental Office Files
- _____
- _____
- _____
- Faculty/Staff Office Files
- Faculty/Staff Office Files
- Faculty/Staff Office Files
- _____

____ Course Summary
____ Excel Spreadsheet
____ Access Database
____ Other - Please describe: _____

Student Learning Outcome 1: Graduates apply critical thinking in academic and professional environments.

<u>Expected Level of Achievement</u>	<u>Actual Data From Assessment</u>	<u>Actions/Decisions</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="94 378 701 649">• Agricultural students will have a basic understanding of agriculture in the concentration area they have chosen. Students will be able to adequately perform at an entry level basis in industry or graduate school. Departmental capstone tests will be administered to test proficiency of students in various concentrations. 100% of the students completing the capstone examination will be proficient in their respective concentration area 'C' or better. <p data-bbox="128 683 701 769">Overall grade point average and degree concentration grade point average must be 2.5 or better at least 60% of the students will achieve this goal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="94 807 701 954">• Students are expected to participate in the agricultural student internships or a related event that includes further education in their field of study. At least 50% of the agriculture students will participate in an internship prior to graduation.	<p data-bbox="730 378 1289 402">At this time the data has not been collected to assess</p>	<p data-bbox="1373 378 1913 431">Initiate the collection of materials for each of these assessments.</p>

Student Learning Outcome 2: Graduates formulate and express ideas effectively through oral, written, and/or technological communications in academic and professional environments.

<u>Expected Level of Achievement</u>	<u>Actual Data From Assessment</u>	<u>Actions/Decisions</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are required to complete a capstone experience that includes written and oral components. Students are expected to have a basic understanding of technology in each of their respective concentrations. Several core courses require oral and written presentations. • AGEC 201 Agricultural Economics - This is a freshman and sophomore level course that requires students to compose a term paper for a portion (up to 30%) of the final grade. Students must perform at the 'C' level or higher to be proficient in the course. 90% of the students completing the course will be at the 'C' level or higher. • AGRI 441 Seminar - This the capstone course for all agriculture students. Written and oral presentations are required. Students are required to research a relevant topic, write an abstract and present the abstract at the conclusion of the course. Students will perform at the 'C' level or higher to be proficient in the course. An initial mini seminar will be required that will allow the student to present a topic in front of peers and faculty. It is expected that 25% of these students will perform at the 'C' level or higher according to the selected matrix. At the conclusion of the course 100% of the students will perform at the 'C' level or higher for their final presentation. • ANSC 301 Applied Animal Nutrition -This course requires students to be familiar with nutritional concepts and basic feed formulation. Critical thinking and mathematical skills are involved in all of these concepts. Students will be required to take a pre-test on basic nutritional concepts 25% of the students are expected to be at the 'C' level or higher. At the conclusion of the course the students will be tested on 	<p>At this time the data has not been assessed. Sample data will be collected from each of these courses. Data will include but is not limited to the following:</p> <p>AGEC 201- Performance on research project/paper. This paper will include library and web-based research. The paper will have a literature review, introduction, body, conclusion, and abstract.</p> <p>AGRI 441 - Evaluation on presentation and content of research. Evaluation consists of a peer review process and faculty evaluation of each student and their work. These reviews are done on an anonymous grading matrix. Review of literature and an abstract must be completed. Scores and samples will be collected</p> <p>ANSC 301- Problem sets, problem-based learning, and written assignments will be reviewed for competencies. Pre and post test scores will be maintained for reviewed.</p>	<p>Initiate the collection of materials for each of these assessments.</p>

the same concepts and 90% of the students will perform at the 'C' level or higher.

In addition to these courses students are encouraged to participate in undergraduate research and presentations.



Student Learning Outcome 3: Graduates analyze the global community to make sound judgments in academic and professional environments.

<u>Expected Level of Achievement</u>	<u>Actual Data From Assessment</u>	<u>Actions/Decisions</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students are required to seek internships in their field of study during the summer months to enhance their learning experience. A survey will be sent to each intern employer to determine satisfaction and needs. Employer satisfaction will be 85%.• Students are encouraged to work with faculty mentors on undergraduate research projects and presentations. Five students each year will present abstracts at scientific meetings.• Students graduating in Agricultural sciences are surveyed on subsequent employment in agricultural related fields or enrollment in post graduate or professional programs. Seventy-five percent of the students each semester will be employed in agriculture related jobs.	<p>At this time the data has not been assessed.</p> <p>An exit interview is conducted with each graduate. Students are surveyed on their employment or post graduate education choices.</p> <p>Students that participate in research and scientific meetings will be interviewed about their experiences. Abstracts will be collected and evaluated by agricultural department faculty.</p>	<p>Initiate the collection of materials for each of these assessments.</p> <p>Continue to perform exit interviews and surveys.</p> <p>Send a 6-month questionnaire to the graduates to get an update on their post graduation status.</p> <p>Collect information from employers on intern capabilities and satisfaction of intern.</p>