Departments of Diagnostic Medicine and Pathobiology and Clinical Sciences
College of Veterinary Medicine
Kansas State University

Assessment of Student Learning for PhD in Pathobiology

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

- *Abilities to <u>formulate and design a hypothesis-driven research project(s),</u> independently carry out the research methodology, critically analyze the data, and disseminate the research findings in the form of presentations at scientific meetings and peer-reviewed publications.*
- *<u>Professional and technical expertise</u> in their chosen areas of study or disciplines.*
- *Abilities to <u>apply knowledge through critical thinking, to interpret or analyze and integrate information,</u> to respond and adapt to changing situations, to make decisions, to solve problems, and to evaluate actions.*
- *Effective <u>oral and written communication skills</u>.*

PhD Students in the Program

Academic Year	No. of students in the Program	No. of students matriculated	No. of students graduated	No. of students discontinued
2016-2017	41	10	11	1
2017-2018	41	12	5	0
2018-2019	43	7	11	1
2019-2020	45	14	5	1

Assessment tools

1. Student's self-progress report (Student form 1)
2. Major professor's evaluation of the student's progress with regard to program's SLOs (Faculty form 1)
3. Student's self-evaluation of the progress with regard to program's SLOs (Student form 2)
4. In-person meeting and discussion of the student's progress with regard to program's SLOs (Faculty form 2)
5. Preliminary examination evaluation by the supervisory committee (Faculty form 3)
6. Final examination evaluation by the supervisory committee (Faculty form 4)

Summary of Progress in Assessment

The graduate faculty in the program have adopted multiple assessment tools that include student's self-progress report and self-evaluation and evaluations by the major professor and other members of the supervisory committee. The program strives to capture the evaluations annually and requires in-person feedback sessions between major professors and graduate students. Evaluations at the time of preliminary examination and final defense of the doctoral dissertation by the members of the supervisory committee provide data to assess the competence level of the graduating student. The exit survey provides opportunity for students to candidly assess the graduate program. In the past 4 years, a majority of the respondents indicated that the education and training received have fully equipped them to their next career paths and they will recommend the graduate program to other students. .

Alignment Matrix for PhD Students in Pathobiology

Student Learning Outcomes	Graduate courses	Presentation skills (Seminars, oral and poster presentations in meetings)	Writing skills (Abstracts, manuscripts, dissertation)	Preliminary Examination	Final examination
Abilities to carry out research, analyze data, and disseminate research findings	X	X	X	X	X
Professional and technical expertise	X			X	X
Application of knowledge through critical thinking				X	X
Effective oral and written communication skills.	X	X	X	X	X

X=Indicate opportunity for the students to learn the outcome