FAMILY STUDIES GRADUATE PROGRAM  
2011-2012

Goal 1: Graduate students will be able to utilize the scientific process in generating new knowledge.

Outcome: Graduate students will be able to conceptualize and design a relevant research project to answer a specific research question.

Assessment: Majors will be required to design and complete a research project which answers a research question of their own.

Results: 9 students graduated from the MS FCS- Family Studies Specialization in 2011-2012. 8 students successfully designed and completed an individual research project (89%).

Goal 2: Graduate students will be able to apply the scientific process in evaluating current knowledge.

Outcome: Graduate students will be able to critically evaluate contemporary empirical literature.

Assessment: Students will be required to complete a critical examination of contemporary research.

Results: 9 students successfully completed a methodologically critical review of contemporary literature in the area of their choosing (100%).

Goal 3: Graduate students will be able to apply appropriate statistical tests in order to analyze and interpret data analyses.

Outcome: Graduate students will be able to analyze quantitative data, review, understand, and interpret output from statistical analyses, drawing appropriate conclusions.

Assessment: Graduate students enter, analyze, and interpret quantitative data for relevant findings in order to prepare a research paper examining a specific research question. The paper must describe the data at a univariate level and discuss important bivariate relationships.

Results: All students completed univariate and bivariate statistical analyses, and described relevant conclusions as a portion of their completed research projects (100%).

Goal 4: Graduates of the Family Studies specialization will develop skills in critical and abstract thinking, and application of theory to real life circumstances.
**Outcome:** Family Studies graduate students will demonstrate abstract and critical thinking skills in applying Family Systems concepts to family problems and interventions.

**Assessment:** Family Studies graduate students will be required to submit a research paper demonstrating critical integration of theory, research, and practice.

**Results:** 9 students successfully completed essay examination questions that require integration of theory research and practice. (100%).

**Goal 5:** Graduates of the Family Studies specialization will be able to effectively manage conflict in professional and interpersonal relationships.

**Outcome:** Family Studies graduate students will learn to identify and negotiate solutions in conflict situations and demonstrate the ability to devise individual and group strategies that minimize the destructive consequences of conflict.

**Assessment:** Family Studies graduate students will be complete a critical examination of various conflict situations. They must present a report of how to handle each conflict situation in an assigned paper. Students must apply various techniques and methods discussed throughout the term in order to provide satisfactorily solutions to all parties involved.

**Results:** All 9 students successfully completed the required paper. (100%).

**Goal 6:** Graduates of the Family Studies specialization will be able to apply their knowledge base and skill in appropriate professional settings.

**Outcome:** Family Studies graduate students will demonstrate positive communication and professional efficacy in working in Human Service settings.

**Assessment:** Family Studies graduate students will be evaluated on their performance and professional behavior in internship and community service opportunities.

**Results:** not assessed in this assessment period