

Master of Liberal Studies Assessment Plan  
Draft 9/20/05

**I. Learning goals for MLS graduate students:**

1. Develop graduate level reading and research skills and be able to present scholarly and/or creative work through oral, written, and artistic expression.
2. Think critically with a tolerance for ambiguity and recognition of a diversity of perspectives.
3. Appreciate the disciplines of the liberal arts and sciences and be able to draw upon and employ them in an interdisciplinary manner.
4. Enhance personal and professional growth and potential.
5. Nurture an ongoing self-reflective and self-directed intellectual independence.
6. Foster an ethic of social engagement and citizenship.

**II. Four measures:**

1. One direct measure
  - i. Review of graduating students capstone work (MLS Project or Public Intellectual Portfolio) along with advising and curriculum records.
2. Three indirect measures
  - i. Graduate exit survey asking three questions:
    - a. How well did you achieve each of the departmental goals [using scale of exceeded expectations, met expectations, did not meet expectations].
    - b. What aspects of your education in this program helped with your learning and why were they helpful?
    - c. What might the program do differently that would help you learn more effectively, and why would these actions help?
  - ii. Campus-wide graduate student alumni survey.
  - iii. External review every five years.

**III. Annual meeting of MLS faculty to discuss data and identify action items.**