



DOROTHY F. SCHMIDT COLLEGE OF ARTS & LETTERS

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment

At the conclusion of the student's coursework they will need to complete either a thesis or a comprehensive exam process. The evaluation of both processes are guided by the principle assessment criteria for the degree which include:

- Graduates will have ability to identify one or more significant issues being debated by theorists and researchers in their field(s) of communication study.
- Graduates will have ability to establish the nature and scope of existing theory and research pertaining to the selected issue(s) and devise a research project designed to fill a gap in this knowledge.
- Graduates will have ability to identify one or more significant issues being debated by theorists and researchers in their field(s) of communication study.

The Graduate Committee faculty members in the areas of study will read and evaluate the student's work and assess it based on criteria below

A. Examination and evaluation of M.A. Thesis, particularly the "Issues to be Addressed" and "Background and Justification" sections or their equivalent, by two faculty members who served on the student's thesis committee. On a three-point scale (high pass, pass, low pass), each graduate at semester's end (Summer graduates will be included in the Fall evaluations) must achieve a pass or better on at least one of the three outcomes and a low pass or better on the two remaining outcomes.

B. Non-Thesis: Examination and evaluation of answers to one or more essay questions on the Comprehensive M.A. examination, which ask the student to identify such issues, by two faculty members who served on the student's exam committee. On a three-point scale (high pass, pass, low pass), each graduate at semester's end (Summer graduates will be included in the Fall evaluations) must achieve a pass or better on at least one of the three outcomes