SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY.

Program Assessment Plan

Program: M.A.

Department: Biology

College/School: Arts and Sciences

Date: 11-30-2017

Primary Assessment Contact: Dr. Thomas J. Valone

Note: Each cell in the table below will expand as needed to accommodate your responses.

#	**Program Learning Outcomes** What do the program faculty expect all students to know, or be able to do, as a result of completing this program? ▪ *Note: These should be measurable, and manageable in number (typically 4-6 are sufficient).*	**Assessment Mapping** From what specific courses (or other educational/professional experiences) will artifacts of student learning be analyzed to demonstrate achievement of the outcome? Include courses taught at the Madrid campus and/or online as applicable.	**Assessment Methods** What specific artifacts of student learning will be analyzed? How, and by whom, will they be analyzed? ▪ *Note: the majority should provide direct, rather than indirect, evidence of achievement.* Please note if a rubric is used and, if so, include it as an appendix to this plan.	**Use of Assessment Data** How and when will analyzed data be used by faculty to make changes in pedagogy, curriculum design, and/or assessment work? How and when will the program evaluate the impact of assessment-informed changes *made in previous years*?
1	Students will be able to critically analyze primary literature articles by evaluating the scientific contributions of peer-reviewed publications in biology	BIOL 5820 Seminar in CMR BIOL 5840 Seminar in Ecology & Evol BIOL 5860 Scientific Communication	Written assignments and oral presentations in all of these courses	Every three years, the Program-level assessment committee will report findings to the faculty. The committee will lead a discussion about how the data can inform changes to the program to improve student learning of the outcome. After a change has been made, we will assess the impact on student learning over the next 3 years.
2	Students will be able to effectively communicate scientific ideas	BIOL 5820 Seminar in CMR BIOL 5840 Seminar in Ecology & Evol BIOL 5860 Scientific Communication	Written assignments and oral presentations in all of these courses	Every three years, the Program-level assessment committee will report findings to the faculty. The committee will lead a discussion about how the data can inform changes to the program

				to improve student learning of the outcome. After a change has been made, we will assess the impact on student learning over the next 3 years.
3	Students will be able to demonstrate professional integrity	BIOL 5820 Seminar in CMR BIOL 5840 Seminar in Ecology & Evol BIOL 5860 Scientific Communication	Written assignments and oral presentations in all of these courses	Every three years, the Program-level assessment committee will report findings to the faculty. The committee will lead a discussion about how the data can inform changes to the program to improve student learning of the outcome. After a change has been made, we will assess the impact on student learning over the next 3 years.
4				
5				
6				
7				

Additional Questions

1. On what schedule/cycle will faculty assess each of the above-noted program learning outcomes? *(It is <u>not recommended</u> to try to assess every outcome every year.)*

Outcomes 1 and 2 will be assessed every three years because we only have 1-3 M.A. students per year.

2. Describe how, and the extent to which, program faculty contributed to the development of this plan.

The Program-level assessment committee is comprised of 6 faculty members. The outcomes the committee developed were discussed at two faculty meetings and the faculty unanimously approved them.

3. On what schedule/cycle will faculty review and, if needed, modify this assessment plan?

Every three years, the program-level assessment committee will meet to discuss how the plan is working for these outcomes. Each year the committee reports to the faculty and can recommend changes to the plan.

IMPORTANT: Please remember to submit any assessment rubrics (as noted above) along with this report.