

**MAJOR FIELD ASSESSMENT PLAN
M.S. BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

The mission of Southeastern Louisiana University is to meet the education and cultural needs, primarily of Southeast Louisiana, to disseminate knowledge and to facilitate life-long learning through quality instruction, research and service in a safe, student-centered environment.

The purpose of the M.S. in Biological Sciences is to provide a broad academic program at the graduate level for students of diverse biological interests.

Goal 1

To produce well-qualified graduate students who are ready to either obtain positions in government or industry or who are ready to continue their education with a Ph.D.

A. Expected Outcome

All incoming graduate students will have sufficient grasp of basic concepts in Biology to begin graduate work and assist in instruction.

Assessment Procedure

All students will score at least 70% on the Preliminary Written Exam which is given to all incoming graduate students during their first two weeks of enrollment.

B. Expected Outcome

By the end of their second semester, all graduate students will have achieved sufficient mastery of their area of specialty to begin independent research.

Assessment Procedure

Oral Exam

C. Expected Outcome

By the end of their period at SLU, all graduate students can demonstrate an ability to conduct publishable independent research

Assessment Procedure

Final Comprehensive Exam