

Outcome	Dissertation Defense	Defending one's dissertation and passing the defense is the final hurdle in a PhD's student's education. Passing the defense identifies that the student has sufficient knowledge and expertise to enter the discipline in a professional level. This outcome will measure each year the number of students who pass their dissertation defense on the first try, as well as how long it took to complete the dissertation after the proposal was defended. For those requiring a second defense, length of time to complete will also be noted, as well as the outcome (success or failure) of the second attempt.
Outcome	Proposal Defense	The dissertation proposal defense is to occur no more than a year after a student takes the qualifying exam. Passing the proposal defense is a measure of competence and advancement toward degree completion. Measurement will record the number and percentage of eligible students who successfully defend their proposal within a year after qualifying exams. We will also note how many eligible students do not meet this deadline and how many additional months it took them to defend their proposals.
Outcome	Qualifying Exams	Qualifying exams test students in 6 key areas of knowledge: Human Factors, Sensation/Perception, Memory/Cognition, Research Methods, Statistics and Ergonomics. The exams are given once a year to students who have complete the MS degree and who wish to enter doctoral candidacy. Measured in this outcome will be the number of students taking the test each year, the percentage who pass on the first attempt, the percentage who pass upon second try, and also for those not passing on the first or second attempts, which sections of the exam they failed.
Outcome	Research Productivity	The PhD is a research-based degree. In order to show disciplinary competence, PhD students should be presenting and publishing their research. The following variables will be measured: 1. Number of PhD students in program and what percentage of them presented papers at regional, national and international conferences and/or published in peer-reviewed journal, conference proceedings or wrote book chapters. 2. Variables listed in 1. will be broken out for each yearly student cohort within the PhD program. 3. We will also indicate the number of publications and presentations listed in Number 1. on which a student was the first author. 4. Any other student research awards will be documented, such as best student research paper at a national or international conference.