

**Student Learning Objectives (SLO) for the  
Master of Science in Adult and Continuing Education  
Revised July 2011**

A total of seven SLOs are now being used to assess the Masters program in Adult and Continuing Education to meet the requirements of the Higher Learning Commission's (HLC) accreditation process. These outcomes are based on the six Standards for a master's degree created by the Commission of Professors in Adult Education (CPAE). (CPAE is a commission of the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education, which provides leadership for the field of adult education.) In addition to these standards, the adult education faculty at KSU have added two additional graduate level standards in critical thinking and communication skills.

**Master of Science in Adult and Continuing Education** provides experiences that ensure adult education professionals will acquire knowledge, develop skills, and establish beliefs and attitudes in the following core areas:

**1. Scope, nature, and function of adult education**

SLO 1: (Knowledge) *Demonstrate proper use of the adult education literature across a variety of resources.*

SLO7: (Attitudes and Professional Conduct) *Recognize and address moral and ethical responsibilities within their profession and practice professional ethics.*

**2. Adult learning and development**

3. SLO 1: (Knowledge) *Demonstrate proper use of the adult education literature across a variety of resources.*

**4. Administration and development of adult education programs**

5. SLO 1: (Knowledge) *Demonstrate proper use of the adult education literature across a variety of resources.*

**6. Technological influences on adult education**

SLO 4: (Skills) *Demonstrate knowledge of impact of technology on adult education and adult learning.*

**7. Historical, philosophical, and sociological foundations of adult education**

SLO 1: (Knowledge) *Demonstrate proper use of the adult education literature across a variety of resources*

SLO 3: (Knowledge) *Demonstrate an understanding of social issues affecting adult education.*

**8. Overview of educational research**

SLO 2: (Knowledge) *Demonstrate knowledge of research methodologies.*

Other areas reflect a graduate level program:

**Critical Thinking**

SLO 6: (Skills) *Demonstrate the ability to synthesize complex information*

**Communication Skills**

SLO 5: (Skills) *Demonstrate effective written communication skills*

In addition, students may customize the remaining portion of the program to match their own needs and goals, which may emphasize teaching and learning or administrative practices of adult education.

**COE Graduate (MS) Student Learning Outcomes for Adult and Continuing Education:**

**Knowledge**

1. *Demonstrate proper use of the adult education literature across a variety of resources.*
2. *Demonstrate knowledge of research methodologies.*
3. *Demonstrate an understanding of social issues affecting adult education.*

**Skills**

4. *Demonstrate knowledge of impact of technology on adult education and adult learning.*
5. *Demonstrate effective written communication skills.*
6. *Demonstrate the ability to synthesize complex information.*

**Attitudes and Professional Conduct**

7. *Recognize and address moral and ethical responsibilities within their profession and practice professional ethics.*

**Direct Measures**

All learning outcomes will be assessed through two components of the MS portfolio. The first component consists of artifacts to demonstrate satisfaction of the SLO from courses completed (assignments contained within the courses). The second component is a narrative summarizing the student's evidence of knowledge, skills, and attitudes related to the field. A rubric for assessing each component of the portfolio has been developed and annually revised by the faculty to hone the common language.

## Indirect Measures

All students will complete two components: 1) a self-assessment of their progress in the acquisition of knowledge, skills, and attitudes, which will be added to the portfolio; and 2) end-of-program evaluation.

## Student Sample

All students completing a degree and submitting a portfolio for the M.S. portfolio will be included in the program assessment process. Scores from the rubrics will be compiled for the academic year and reported by the total group and by disaggregated groups (as appropriate).

## Timetable:

Data from each semester in one academic year will be compiled, analyzed, and reported to all the EDACE faculty in the summer of the next academic year to assist with program review and development. A pilot study was completed with volunteers from those beginning the degree program the 2009 fall semester. Assessment program is required for all students beginning the degree program 2010 spring semester.

**Alignment Matrix** – For each stated student learning outcome, where does the student have the opportunity to learn the outcome (e.g., specific courses, or other program requirements) and where is the student achievement of the outcome assessed (e.g., assignments in courses, evaluation of final thesis, report, dissertation)?

<b>Degree Program SLO/Required Courses/Experiences</b>	<b>MS Portfolio (Artifacts)</b>	<b>MS Portfolio (Narrative)</b>	<b>Student End of Program Assessment</b>	<b>Opportunities to Learn Courses Listed by Number</b>
Knowledge - <i>Demonstrate proper use of the adult education literature across a variety of resources.</i>	A	A	A	All Core Courses
Knowledge - <i>Demonstrate the knowledge of research methodologies.</i>	A	A	A	All Core Courses
Knowledge - <i>Demonstrate an understanding of social issues affecting adult education.</i>	A	A	A	All Core Courses
Skills - <i>Demonstrate knowledge of impact of technology on adult education and adult learning.</i>				All Core Courses
Skills - <i>Demonstrate effective written communication skills.</i>	A	A	A	All Core Courses
Skills - <i>Demonstrate the ability to synthesize complex information.</i>	A	A	A	All Core Courses
Attitudes and Professional Conduct - <i>Recognize and address moral and ethical responsibilities within their profession and practice professional ethics.</i>	A	A	A	All Core Courses
<b>University SLO's</b>				
Knowledge	A	A	A	All Courses
Skills	A	A	A	All Courses
Attitudes and Professional Conduct	A	A	A	All Courses

- Place an “X” for courses or experiences in which students have the opportunity to learn the outcome (coursework, other program requirements).
- Place an “A” for courses or experiences in which student performance is used for program level assessment of the outcome (assignments in course, evaluation of final thesis, report, dissertation)

Course Number/Title List (All courses are required for MS in Adult and Continuing Education)

MS Adult Education Core Courses:

- EDACE 780: Introduction to Adult Education
- EDACE 790: Characteristics of Adult Learner
- EDACE 830: Program Planning in Adult Education
- EDACE 818: Social Foundations of Adult Education
- EDACE 847: Adult Learning and Motivation
- EDCEP 816: Research Methods or approved equivalent

In addition, graduate students choose from a variety of elective courses to complete the 33 semester credit hour required for the degree.