MS in Agricultural Education – Initial Certification (Option III)
Assessment Plan
August, 2007

I  Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes:

Those students seeking a MS Degree in Agricultural Education – Initial Certification will (based on the Wisconsin Ten Standards for Teacher Development & Licensure):

1. **know the subjects they are teaching.**
   The teacher understands the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the disciplines she or he teaches and can create learning experiences that make these aspects of subject matter meaningful for pupils.

2. **know how children grow.**
   The teacher understands how children with broad ranges of ability learn and provides instruction that supports their intellectual, social, and personal development.

3. **understand that children learn differently.**
   The teacher understands how pupils differ in their approaches to learning and the barriers that impede learning and can adapt instruction to meet the diverse needs of pupils, including those with disabilities and exceptionalities.

4. **know how to teach.**
   The teacher understands and uses a variety of instructional strategies, including the use of technology, to encourage children's development of critical thinking, problem solving, and performance skills.

5. **know how to manage a classroom.**
   The teacher uses an understanding of individual and group motivation and behavior to create a learning environment that encourages positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation.

6. **communicate well.**
   The teacher uses effective verbal and nonverbal communication techniques as well as instructional media and technology to foster active inquiry, collaboration, and supportive interaction in the classroom.

7. **be able to plan different kinds of lessons.**
   The teacher organizes and plans systematic instruction based upon knowledge of subject matter, pupils, the community, and curriculum goals.

8. **know how to test for student progress.**
   The teacher understands and uses formal and informal assessment strategies to evaluate and ensure the continuous intellectual, social, and physical development of the pupil.

9. **be able to evaluate themselves.**
   The teacher is a reflective practitioner who continually evaluates the effects of his or her choices and actions on pupils, parents, professionals in the learning community and others and who actively seeks out opportunities to grow professionally.

10. **be connected with other teachers and the community.**
    The teacher fosters relationships with school colleagues, parents, and agencies in the larger community to support pupil learning and well-being and acts with integrity, fairness and in an ethical manner.
## Where Objectives are Being Met

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOALS</th>
<th>COURSES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Know the subjects they are teaching</td>
<td>AGED 662 E  AGED 662 E  AGED 662 E  PSYC 530 R  READ 622 E  TED 740 E  TED 745 E  TED 440 E  TED 475 E</td>
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<td>3. Understand that children learn differently</td>
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<td>4. Know how to teach</td>
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<td>5. Know how to manage a classroom</td>
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<td>7. Be able to plan different kinds of lessons</td>
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<td>8. Know how to test for student progress</td>
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<td>9. Be able to evaluate themselves</td>
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<td>10. Be connected with other teachers and the community</td>
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I = Introduced; E = Emphasized; R = Reinforced
III Assessment Measures

A). Direct Measure of Objectives

1. University of Wisconsin – River Falls Student Teacher Evaluation
   a. Completed by Cooperating Teacher three times during the student teaching field experience.
   b. Maintained in Student Permanent Files in the Agricultural Education Department
   c. Addresses Objectives 1 – 10

2. University of Wisconsin – River Falls Certification Portfolio
   a. Finalized at the end of the student teaching experience.
   b. Submitted to and archived by the College of Education and Professional Studies Deans Office.
   c. Addresses Objectives 1 – 10

3. Educational Testing Service (ETS) Praxis II Content (Agriculture) Exam
   a. Passing score required prior to student teaching
   b. Addresses Objectives 1

B). Indirect Measure of Objectives

1. University of Wisconsin – River Falls Agricultural Education Student Exit Survey
   a. See Appendix B of the undergraduate Ag Ed assessment plan
   b. Addresses Objectives 1 – 10

IV. Timetable for the Cycle of Assessment

A). Direct Measure of Objectives

1. Student Teacher Evaluation
   a. Completed at the end of each Semester (Fall/Spring)

2. Certification Portfolio
   a. Completed at the end of each Semester (Fall/Spring)

3. Praxis II Content (Agriculture) Exam
   a. Completed by each student prior to being assigned a student teaching placement.

B). Indirect Measure of Objectives

1. Exit Survey
   a. Completed by each student at the completion of student teaching (Fall/Spring)
V. **Data Presentation & Discussion**

Agricultural Education Faculty will meet at least once annually to evaluate data collected via the various student assessment measures. Prior to the meeting student teacher evaluation, Praxis II, and survey results will be compiled and presented to each faculty member. Select portfolios will be reviewed at the meeting. During the meeting, faculty members will respond to the results of the data, and revisions to the program and/or assessment plan will be recommended (if needed). Minutes of the meeting will be maintained to document the process.

VI. **Implementation of Revisions**

Revisions to the Agricultural Education Program and/or forms of assessment will be implemented by faculty in the Agricultural Education Department. Appropriate university procedures will be followed.

VII. **Results Availability**

Assessment procedures will be described on the Agricultural Education Department web site. Results will be available from the department upon request.