

Assessment Activities, 2008-2009
Physics

| <i>University Assessment Goals</i> | <i>Graduate School Goals</i> | <i>Program Outcomes</i> | <i>Assessment Procedures and Criteria</i> |
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| 1. Graduates will demonstrate disciplinary competence and/or professional proficiency. | 1. Graduates will demonstrate the disciplinary competence and/or professional proficiency with a global perspective in service to others. | Students will have demonstrated the skills appropriate to graduate-level physics, including conceptual problem solving ability, proficiency in advanced mathematics, proficiency in theoretical or experimental project design, expertise in employing computer software, proficiency in communication through writing and oral presentations. | Students will pass the Graduate Comprehensive Exams in physics. Students will successfully complete the core courses in physics. Students will complete and defend a thesis (Plan A) or a research report (Plan B). Students will present seminars in PHY 791 each semester. Students will give presentations at local, regional, or national meetings. |
| 2. Graduates will demonstrate critical thinking skills. | 2. Graduates will demonstrate an ability to combine critical thinking, disciplined research, and effective problem-solving in their field of study. | | |
| 3. Graduates will demonstrate Ignatian values, to include but not limited to a commitment to an exploration of faith and the promotion of justice. | 3. Graduates will demonstrate ethical decision making, service, and civic responsibility in accordance with the Judeo-Christian tradition and Ignatian values. | Students will understand the value of ethical action, both in their personal lives and in their professional lives. | Evaluation of focus papers on specific ethical issues in science in PHY 791(Seminar). Participation in the annual physics department retreat in which the focus is on a particular ethical issue related to science. |
| 4. Graduates will demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly and effectively. | 4. Graduates will respectfully and effectively communicate information through all modes of expression. | | |
| 5. Graduates will demonstrate deliberative reflection for personal and professional formation. | 5. Graduates will demonstrate deliberative reflection for lifelong personal and professional formation. | Students will take PHY 591 for one semester in which they will get experience in writing a resume and how to conduct a job interview. Graduate Teaching Fellows will take PHY 785 in which they will be exposed to the theory and practice of teaching physics. | Students will pass the requirements for PHY 591. Students will pass PHY 785 and demonstrate effectiveness in teaching physics through personal observation by faculty and through student evaluations. |
| 6. Graduates will demonstrate the ability to work effectively across race, ethnicity, culture, gender, religion, and sexual orientation. | 6. Graduates will demonstrate an ability to work effectively and in solidarity across the distinctions of human diversity. | | |