

**Southern Utah University
Family & Consumer Science Department
Academic Outcomes Assessment Plan
Academic Year 2001-2002**

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose:

Mission Statement:

Education in Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) empowers individuals and families to manage the challenges of living within a family and working in a diverse global society. Our mission is to prepare individuals for family life and careers by providing opportunities to develop needed knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviors. This is accomplished in a nurturing educational environment that is rich in academic exposure and solid in practical application of theories related to the disciplines encompassed within the field of FCS. Central to our focus as a department is superior teaching, including courses taught in traditional classrooms, laboratories and internships/co-op/student teaching experiences.

Goal Statement:

The goal of the Family and Consumer Sciences Department at SUU is to prepare individuals for family life and careers in early childhood development, interior design, teaching in the secondary schools or entrance into graduate school.

The curriculum of the FCS department consists of a careful blend of classroom courses in theory, methodologies and histories as well as laboratory experiences in hands-on applications of these principles. The intent is to produce well-rounded graduates who are conversant with the material in the FCS field and who can also proficiently apply that material.

The primary aim of the FCS program is to provide high quality undergraduate education to students and meaningful service to the communities served by the university. The department offers teacher certification in secondary schools and trains students in the areas of nutrition and food science, early childhood development, and interior design.

Intended Outcomes:

- I. Students will demonstrate their knowledge and mastery of their particular discipline (i.e., nutrition and food sciences, early childhood development, interior design).
- II. Students will be satisfied with the learning experiences afforded them by the department. Students will be aware of post-baccalaureate opportunities.
- III. Students will be prepared for post-baccalaureate opportunities.

Assessment Criteria and Activities:

- I. FCS students will pass their FCS classes with a minimum grade of C, as assessed by assessment measures within each course. FCS courses will contain activities that will enable students to demonstrate a reasonable level of proficiency in the skills they have learned.
- II. 80% of graduating students will agree with the statement, "The quality, availability, and diversity of course offerings and production opportunities were appropriate."
- III. 80% of graduating students will agree with the statement, "I feel that my program has well prepared me for post-baccalaureate plans."

Implementation:

- I. a. The minimum requirement for a C grade has been placed on all advisement worksheets, in the university catalog and will be reiterated in personal advisement sessions with the students. It will be reviewed again when the students' papers are scrutinized for graduation.

b. At the end of each semester all faculty will report group statistics (to department chair) on grades earned in all classes taught.
- II. Assessment will be through a survey administered to all graduating students (both associate and baccalaureate) by department advisor when graduation papers are approved. The survey will be completed before the chair signs the students' graduation papers.
- III. Assessment will be through a survey administered to all graduating students (both associate and baccalaureate) by department advisor when graduation papers are approved. The survey will be completed before the chair signs the students' graduation papers.