

ABET Presentation

to the UT Materials Science & Engineering Board of Advisors

David Keffer
Dept. of Materials Science & Engineering
The University of Tennessee
Knoxville, TN 37996-2100
dkeffer@utk.edu
<http://clausius.engr.utk.edu/>



University of Tennessee, Knoxville
November 17, 2015



Purpose of this Presentation

The purpose of this document is to provide in the most compact form possible the essential information regarding efforts in the UT MSE department to achieve an unqualified six-year approval from the ABET* team of evaluators that will visit in Fall, 2017.

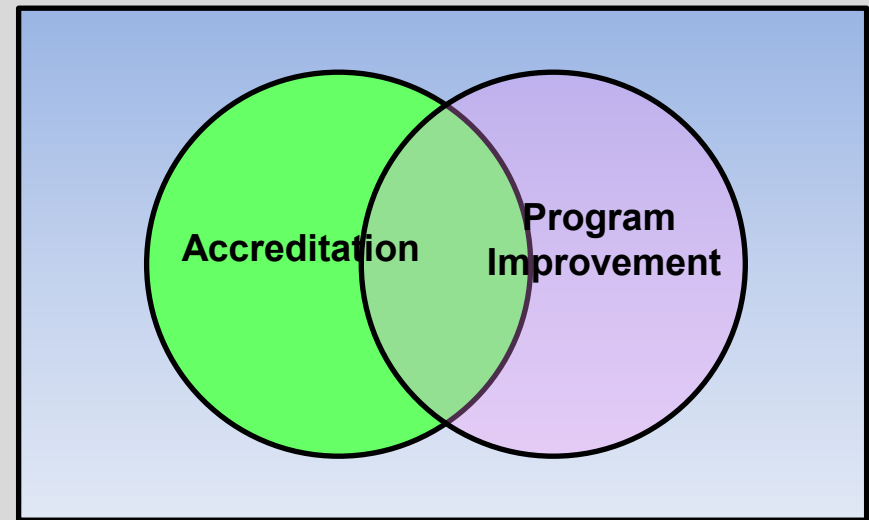
The departmental Board of Advisors is a constituent from which input must be received as part of both the ABET reporting and self-improvement processes.

*ABET = Accreditation Board for Engineering & Technology, Inc.



Departmental Objectives relevant to ABET

The MSE department has two objectives relevant to ABET.



- The first objective is to maintain its credentials as an accredited degree-granting program in materials science.
- The second objective is to create an effective process by which the program can continue to improve.

- The first objective is an external objective, which satisfies the requirements of ABET.
- The second objective is an internal objective, which satisfies the faculty of the UT MSE department.



Timeline

- The ABET review process is on a six year cycle and last occurred at UT in 2011.
- The ABET evaluators will visit during the fall semester of 2017.
- The self-study report is due to ABET on July 1, 2017. (There may be earlier internal deadlines issued by the university or college.)
- Because data must be collected and analyzed, the 2015-2016 academic year represents the last year in which the full annual process can be completed before the self-study report is due.



MSE Departmental ABET Committee

The UTK MSE Department maintains an ABET Committee as a standing committee. As of June, 2015, the composition of the UTK MSE Departmental ABET Committee is as follows:

1. David Keffer (Committee Chair)
2. Claudia Rawn (Committee Member)
3. Chris Wetteland (Committee Member)
4. Martha Gale (Committee Member)
5. Veerle Keppens (Department Head and Courtesy Member)
6. Hahn Choo (Courtesy Member)



Recipe for Success

The approach that the MSE department is taking to meet its ABET goals is based on five components.

- 1. Preparedness:** Read the ABET documentation and prepare a self-study report and associated supporting materials that satisfy all requirements.
- 2. Communication:** Inform faculty, staff, students and other constituents of the requirements and their respective roles in meeting these requirements.
- 3. Inclusiveness:** Maintain receptivity to input from faculty, staff, students and other constituents, regarding concerns and suggestions.
- 4. Organization:** Provide the relevant data to the reviewers in an organized manner.
- 5. Hospitality:** Host a well-organized visit from the ABET reviewers in which all constituents are able to demonstrate that they are knowledgeable and well-prepared to present in a unified way the strengths of the program.



What is the ABET Self-Study Report?

A highly structured document:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

GENERAL CRITERIA

CRITERION 1. STUDENTS

CRITERION 2. PROGRAM EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

CRITERION 3. STUDENT OUTCOMES

CRITERION 4. CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

CRITERION 5. CURRICULUM

CRITERION 6. FACULTY

CRITERION 7. FACILITIES

CRITERION 8. INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

PROGRAM CRITERIA

Appendix A – Course Syllabi

Appendix B – Faculty Vitae

Appendix C – Equipment

Appendix D – Institutional Summary



Program Educational Objectives (Criterion 2)

The educational objectives of the program for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering are:

- Our graduates will demonstrate a thorough understanding of general engineering principles and a deep understanding of the discipline of materials science and engineering.
- Our graduates will contribute to their disciplines and society and advance to leadership roles in their chosen career field.
- Our graduates will be prepared to successfully complete competitive postgraduate education programs.

http://www.engr.utk.edu/mse/future/undergrad_objectives.html

These very broad objectives were adopted after the previous objectives were deemed a weakness during the 2011 ABET review.



Student Outcomes (Criterion 3)

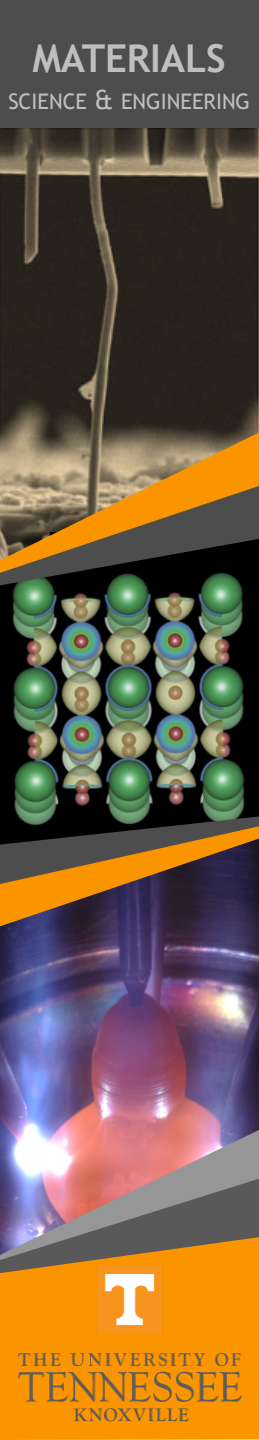
verbatim
from ABET

- a) an ability to apply knowledge of mathematics, science, and engineering
- b) an ability to design and conduct experiments, as well as to analyze and interpret data
- c) an ability to design a system, component, or process to meet desired needs within realistic constraints such as economic, environmental, social, political, ethical, health and safety, manufacturability, and sustainability
- d) an ability to function on multidisciplinary teams
- e) an ability to identify, formulate, and solve engineering problems
- f) an understanding of professional and ethical responsibility
- g) an ability to communicate effectively
- h) the broad education necessary to understand the impact of engineering solutions in a global, economic, environmental, and societal context
- i) a recognition of the need for, and an ability to engage in life-long learning
- j) a knowledge of contemporary issues
- k) an ability to use the techniques, skills, and modern engineering tools necessary for engineering practice

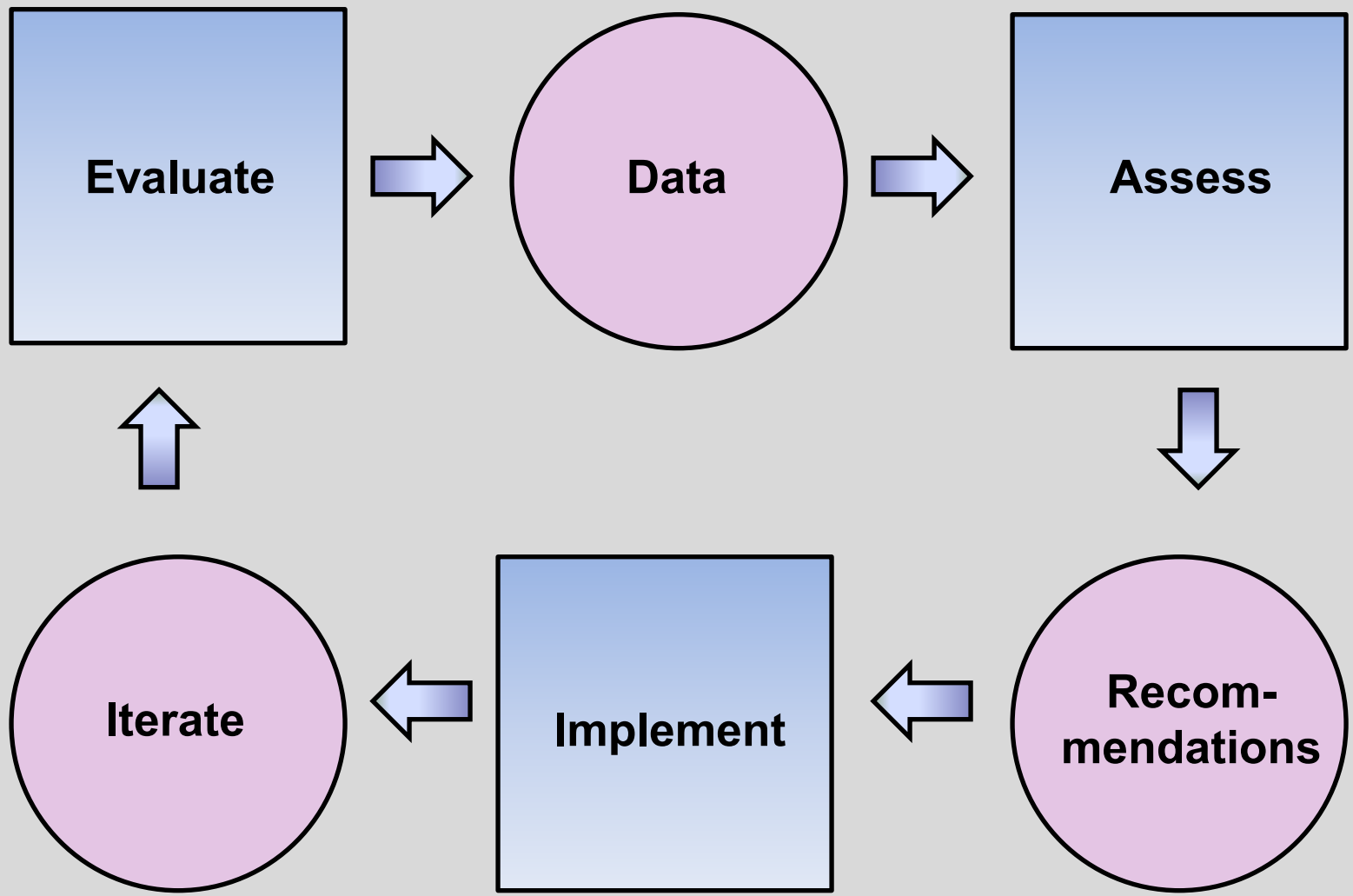
from
UT MSE

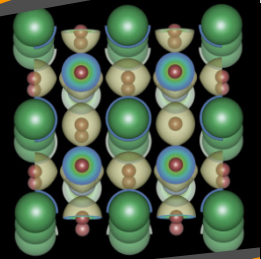
- l) an understanding of the effect of composition, synthesis, and processing methods on structure and properties, and in turn to the performance in service of all classes of materials (metals, ceramics, polymers)
- m) an ability to apply statistical and computational methods for data analysis and solution of problems in materials systems
- n) an ability to integrate knowledge of processing, structure, properties, and performance to solve materials selection and design problems

These very outcomes were adopted after the previous outcomes were deemed a weakness during the 2011 ABET review.



Continuous Improvement (Criterion 4)





Evaluation (Data Collection)

There are five sources from which we will collect evaluations.

1. Faculty Assessment of ABET Outcomes
2. Senior Exit Interviews
3. Alumni Survey
4. Employer Survey
5. Board of Advisors Meeting



Faculty Assessment of Student Outcomes Organized by Course

| | course title | outcome 1 | outcome 2 | outcome 3 |
|-----|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 101 | Advances in Materials Science and Engineering | J | | |
| 201 | Introduction to Materials Science and Engineering | A | | |
| 210 | Introduction to Materials Science and Engineering Laboratory | B | D | |
| 250 | Introduction to Materials Kinetics and Transport Phenomena | K | E | |
| 260 | Materials Engineering Thermodynamics | A | | |
| 290 | Professional Development | J | H | I |
| 300 | Principles of Materials Laboratory I | G | B | |
| 301 | Applied Statistics and Numerical Methods | M | | |
| 302 | Mechanical Behavior of Materials I | A | | |
| 304 | Principles of Materials Laboratory II | B | D | K |
| 320 | Diffusion and Phase Transformations | A | | |
| 340 | Principles of Polymeric Materials | E | L | |
| 350 | Principles of Electronic, Optical, and Magnetic Materials | A | K | |
| 360 | Principles of Ceramic Materials | L | | |
| 370 | Materials Processing | D | L | J |
| 390 | Principles of Metallic Materials | E | A | |
| 405 | Structural Characterization of Materials | G | F | K |
| 480 | Materials Selection in Design | C | N | J |
| 489 | Materials Design | N | F | C |

The courses listed include all MSE courses that appear in the 2015-16 undergraduate [catalog](#) for the showcase curriculum. Letters in red bold indicate that the course was selected to be evaluated to meet that outcome. Letters in black indicate relevant but unselected outcomes.

Rubrics

Example Rubric for outcome A

Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome A: An ability to apply knowledge of mathematics, science, and engineering

Course _____ Semester _____ Instructor _____ Evaluator (if different) _____

Name of Student Being Evaluated _____ Date of Evaluation _____

| Metric | Work Equivalent to Level 1 | Work Equivalent to Level 3 | Work Equivalent to Level 5 | Score (1-5 or N/A) |
|--------|--|---|--|--------------------|
| A.1. | Does not understand the connection between mathematical models and chemical or physical processes and systems in materials science and engineering | Chooses a mathematical model or scientific principle that applies to an engineering problem, but has trouble in model development | Combines mathematical and/or scientific principles to formulate models of chemical or physical processes and systems relevant to materials science and engineering | |
| A.2. | Does not understand the application of calculus and linear algebra in solving materials science and engineering problems | Shows nearly complete understanding of applications of calculus and/or linear algebra in problem-solving | Applies concepts of integral and differential calculus and/or linear algebra to solve materials science and engineering problems | |
| A.3. | Mathematical terms are interpreted incorrectly or not at all | Most mathematical terms are interpreted correctly | Shows appropriate engineering interpretation of mathematical and scientific terms | |
| A.4. | Does not appear to grasp the connection between theory and the problem | Some gaps in understanding the application of theory to the problem and expects theory to predict reality | Translates a academic theory into engineering applications and accepts limitations of mathematical models of physical reality | |
| A.5. | Calculations not performed or performed incorrectly | Minor errors in calculations | Executes calculations correctly | |

Please attach description of assignment used for assessment.

Implementation & Highlights

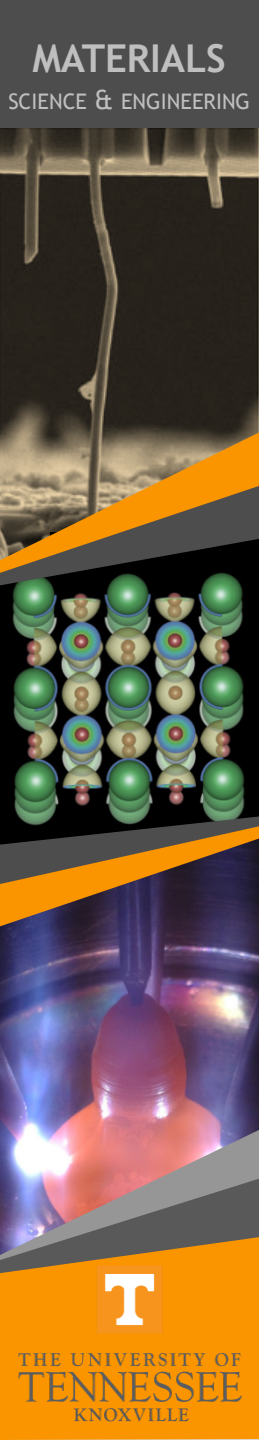
Recommendations are implemented for Program Improvement

1. Significant restructuring of MSE 489, “Materials Design”.
2. Significant restructuring and upgrading of MSE laboratory courses, 210, 300 and 304
3. Creation and offering of MSE 301, “Applied Statistical and Numerical Methods”, to meet student outcome n)
4. Creation and offering of a majors-only section of MSE 201
5. Updating of ABET Evaluation and Assessment process
6. Expansion of Undergraduate Research Opportunities.

The senior design experience was deemed a weakness during the 2011 ABET review.

It has been thoroughly revised/upgraded. A presentation on this topic by Prof. Sickafus will follow.





Additional Program Review Processes

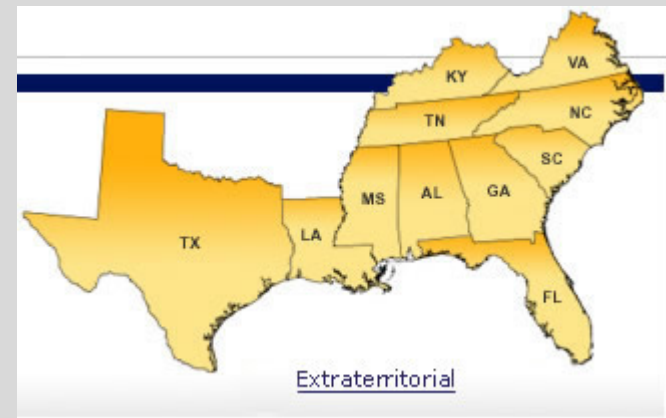


ABET: national organization accredits undergraduate engineering programs only

SACS: Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

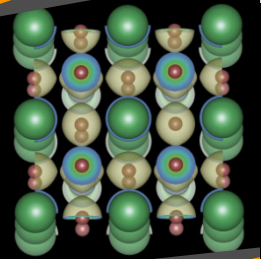
Regional organization accredits universities

Continuous evaluation (6 outcomes, a subset of ABET outcomes)



THEC: Tennessee Higher Education Commission state agency, sets the funding formulae for UT Academic Program Review for each department (10 year cycle)





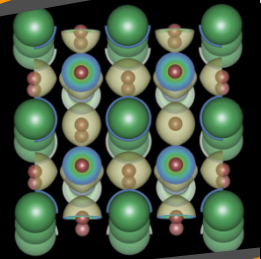
Discussion

15 minutes for presentation

15 minutes for discussion

- **Requests for Clarification?**
- **Egregious Omissions?**
- **Constructive Suggestions?**
- **Best Practices?**
- **How can BOA best provide useful feedback to the self-improvement process?**

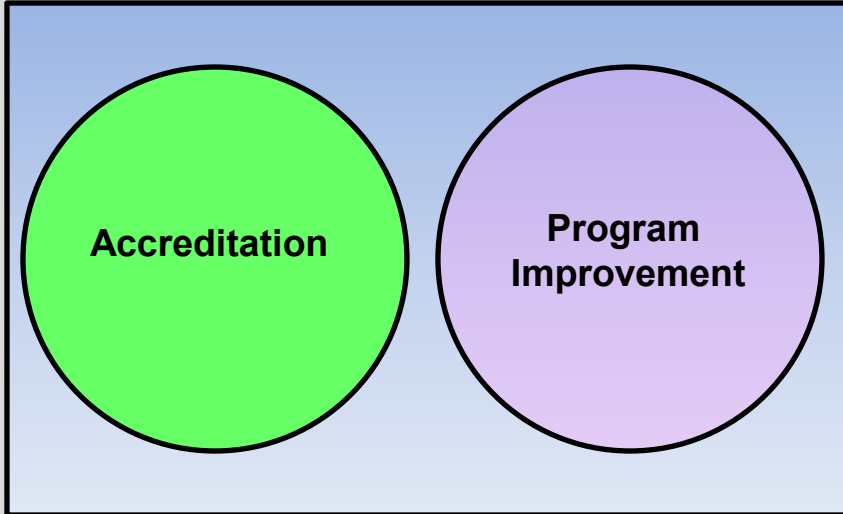




Additional Reference Slides



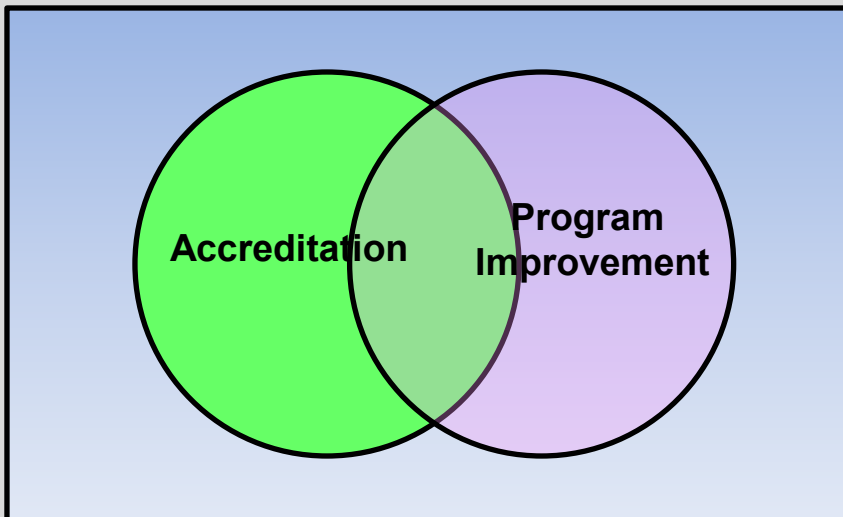
Departmental Objectives relevant to ABET



Both objectives are practically useful.

- We want to be part of an accredited MSE program.
- We want to improve the MSE program.

Many see the accreditation element as a necessary bureaucratic obstacle rather than a means of improvement.



The goal is maximize the overlap of these two elements in the ABET process.



Assessment (Data Analysis and Generation of Recommendations)

The assessment of the data generated through the five inputs in the evaluation process described above is performed on an annual basis by the UTK MSE ABET Committee.

Following that meeting, the results of the assessment are presented to the UTK MSE Undergraduate Affairs Committee, another standing committee of the department, composed of a significantly larger number of MSE faculty. In this forum, both the evaluation and the assessment of the data are presented and discussed. Strengths and weaknesses are identified.

Recommendations for action are formed in this committee and forwarded to the faculty as a whole at the next faculty meeting for deliberation and implementation.



Immediate Action Items

- Because data must be collected and analyzed, the 2015-2016 academic year represents the last year in which the full annual process can be completed before the self-study report is due.
- Evaluation Item: Faculty Assessment of ABET Outcomes



Faculty Assessment of Student Outcomes Organized by Outcome

| | student outcome summary | course 1 | course 2 |
|---|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A | mathematics, science, and engineering | 260 (thermo) | 302 (mechanical behavior) |
| B | design and conduct experiments | 210 (intro lab) | 304 (materials lab II) |
| C | design a system, component, or process | 480 (materials selection) | 489 (senior design) |
| D | multidisciplinary teams | 210 (intro lab) | 370 (materials processing) |
| E | solve engineering problems | 340 (polymeric materials) | 390 (metallic materials) |
| F | professional and ethical responsibility | 405 (structural character.) | 489 (senior design) |
| G | communicate effectively | 300 (materials lab I) | 405 (structural character.) |
| H | global, economic, environmental, and societal context | 290 (professional develop) | |
| I | engage in life-long learning | 290 (professional develop) | |
| J | contemporary issues | 101 (intro seminar) | 290 (professional develop) |
| K | use tools for engineering practice | 250 (kinetics & transport) | 405 (structural character.) |
| L | materials processing/structure/property relationships | 370 (materials processing) | 360 (ceramic materials) |
| M | statistical and computational methods | 301 (statistics and numerical) | |
| N | materials selection and design problems | 489 (senior design) | 480 (materials selection) |



Faculty Assessment of Student Outcomes Organized by Semester (2015-2016) and Responsible Faculty Member

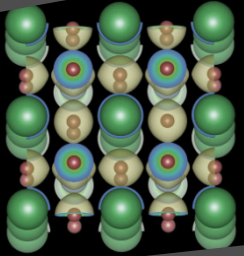
| semester | course | outcome 1 | outcome 2 | outcome 3 | responsible faculty member |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------|
| Fall, 2015 | 201 (intro. to materials lecture) | - | - | - | N.A. |
| Fall, 2015 | 210 (intro. to materials lab) | B | D | - | <u>Wetteland</u> |
| Fall, 2015 | 300 (materials lab I) | G | - | - | <u>Wetteland</u> |
| Fall, 2015 | 301 (statistics and numerical) | M | - | - | Keffer |
| Fall, 2015 | 320 (diffusion & phase transform.) | - | - | - | N.A. |
| Fall, 2015 | 340 (polymeric materials) | E | - | - | Wang |
| Fall, 2015 | 360 (ceramic materials) | L | - | - | Xu |
| Fall, 2015 | 405 (structural character.) | F | G | K | Rawn |
| Fall, 2015 | 480 (materials selection) | C | N | - | Lundin |
| Spring, 2016 | 101 (intro seminar) | J | - | - | Rawn |
| Spring, 2016 | 250 (kinetics & transport) | K | - | - | Fawkes |
| Spring, 2016 | 260 (thermo) | A | - | - | <u>Ramki</u> |
| Spring, 2016 | 290 (professional develop) | H | I | J | Choo |
| Spring, 2016 | 302 (mechanical behavior) | A | - | - | <u>Liaw</u> |
| Spring, 2016 | 304 (materials lab II) | B | - | - | <u>Wetteland</u> |
| Spring, 2016 | 350 (electronic materials) | - | - | - | N.A. |
| Spring, 2016 | 370 (materials processing) | D | L | - | Bhat |
| Spring, 2016 | 390 (metallic materials) | E | - | - | Choo |
| Spring, 2016 | 489 (senior design) | C | F | N | Lundin |



Rubrics

A rubric for each outcome (filled out by faculty for every student)

- List of ABET Student Outcomes (a) through (n)
- Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome A:.....
- Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome B:.....
- Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome C:.....
- Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome D:.....
- Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome E:.....
- Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome F **(NEW)**:
- Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome G (Oral):.....
- Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome G (Written):.....
- Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome H:.....
- Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome I **(NEW)**:.....
- Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome J **(NEW)**:.....
- Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome K **(NEW)**:.....
- Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome L **(NEW)**:.....
- Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome M **(NEW)**:.....
- Assessment Rubric for MSE Program Learning Outcome N:.....



Two things must be provided by faculty

1. Spreadsheet recording results of rubric

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet with the following data:

| | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
|----|--------------------|------------|----------|----------|-----|----------|-----|----------|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | Outcome | N | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Course | 301 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Instructor | Keffer | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | Evaluator | Keffer | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | Semester | Fall, 2015 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | | N.1 | N.2 | N.3 | N.4 | N.5 | N.6 | N.7 | | | | | |
| 9 | Student 1 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | | | | | |
| 10 | Student 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | | | | | |
| 11 | Student 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 3 | | | | | |
| 12 | ... | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | | | | | |
| 13 | Student N | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | | | | | |
| 14 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | average | 4.2 | 4.4 | 4.2 | 5 | 4.2 | 5 | 4 | | | | | |
| 16 | standard deviation | 0.748331 | 0.489898 | 0.748331 | 0 | 0.748331 | 0 | 0.632456 | | | | | |
| 17 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 21 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 23 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 25 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Please no paper copies of rubrics!

Two things must be provided by faculty

2. Student Examples

For each item on the rubric, you must provide student examples that demonstrate what constituted a “1” (if any), “2”, “3”, “4” or “5” on the rubric.

Therefore, at the beginning of the semester, you must identify one question on an exam or homework that you will use to evaluate each item on each rubric assigned to you.

You must turn in a copy of the relevant assignment for each student for each item on the rubric.

Turn this into Martha.

Deadline for spreadsheets and student work are the day student grades are due. (Otherwise they will be lost.)



Reference Materials

Materials stored online at

http://utkstair.org/clausius/docs/abet_mse_2017/

or

<http://tinyurl.com/p9j23nx>

- ABET Slides from MSE Retreat (08/17/2015)
- ABET Preparation document (07/30/2015)
- Student Outcome Rubrics (07/14/2015)
- Sample Rubric Result Spreadsheet (08/13/2015)

