Program Review Committee of the Graduate Council

2024-2025 Summary

Membership

The following faculty were members of the Program Review Committee:

- Steven Stelk (Chair) - School of Finance
- Banu Elmadag – School of Marketing
- Annabelle Frazier – School of Criminal Justice, Forensic Science, and Security
- Monika Gelawat – School of Humanities
- Rachel Gisewhite – Center for STEM Education
- Song Guo – School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences
- Caitlyn Herzlinger – School of Performing and Visual Arts
- Dmitri Netchaev – School of Ocean Science and Engineering
- Jeffrey Parr – School of Health Professions
- Mariann Taylor – School of Child and Family Sciences
- Amonia Tolofari – School of Media and Communication
- Sangam Veeranna– School of Speech and Hearing Sciences

Graduate Program Review

As outlined in Section 8 of the SACSCOC Resource Manual, student learning and student success are at the core of the mission of all institutions of higher learning. Effective institutions focus on the design and improvement of educational experiences to enhance student learning and support student learning outcomes for its educational programs. The University of Southern Mississippi conducts annual assessments of its undergraduate academic programs, certificates, and minors. Program Coordinators complete these annual assessments and record results and analysis in the Weave Education assessment platform.

The charge of the Program Review Committee is to review graduate program-level assessment reports. Annually, the committee reviews a subset of the assessment reports. This academic year, in preparation for the decennial SACSCOC Reaffirmation Report, the committee reviewed the graduate reports that will be showcased in the Reaffirmation Report. In Spring 2025, the committee met 12 times to review 26 reports; the programs that were reviewed are listed below:

- Accounting MPA
- Audiology AuD
- Biological Sciences MS & PhD
- Coastal Sciences MS & PhD
- Child and Family Sciences MS
- Computational Science (Mathematics) PhD
- Counseling Psychology MS
- Criminal Justice MS
- Dyslexia Therapy Education MEd

- Economic Development MS
- Education (Educational Administration P-12) EdD & EdS
- English PhD
- Kinesiology (Exercise Science) MS
- Library and Information Science MLIS
- Logistics, Trade, and Transportation MS
- Nonprofit Studies Graduate Certificate
- Nursing (Leadership) DNP
- Nursing (Nurse Anesthesia) DNP
- Nutrition and Food Systems MS
- Psychology MA & PhD
- Secondary Teacher Education (Alternate Route) MAT*
- Social Work MSW
- STEM Education MS
- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages Graduate Certificate*
- Teaching of Languages MATL*
- Youth Services and Literature Graduate Certificate

*Exemplary report as deemed by the Program Review Committee

The Committee utilized the *Weave Cycle 2023-2024 Program-level Academic Assessment Report Evaluation Rubric* (Appendix A) and the *Weave Cycle 2023-2024 Certificate & Minor Academic Assessment Report Evaluation Rubric* (Appendix B) when reviewing the reports.

The Committee recognizes the efforts of Program Coordinators to annually assess their programs; the reviewers commended the reports that were clear and concise yet provided insight into the program, the reports that distinguished data and analysis by campus, reports that used data to interpret the impact of action plans, and reports that used a variety of measures across the program's curriculum.

Appendix A
Weave Cycle 2023-2024 Program-level Academic Assessment Report Evaluation Rubric

Program (Emphasis) Degree:

Weave Report				
	1 **Non-compliant**	**2** **Needs improvement**	**3** **Compliant**	**4** **Exemplary**
Program Description **Comments:**	☐ Description not entered	☐ Description does not provide adequate context for the program	☐ Description provides a clear picture of what the program teaches students; description provides context for the program	☐ Hours to degree are included ☐ Lists the careers and/or opportunities that are available to students after completing the program
Assessment Plan ***(Student Learning Outcomes, Measures, Targets)*** **Comments:**	☐ Less than 4 SLOs ☐ Less than 2 measures per outcome ☐ Overall course grades used as measures ☐ No targets are set	☐ 4 SLOs present; not all are student learning outcomes ☐ 2 measures per outcome, but measures are not appropriate ☐ Measures are unclear ☐ Targets are set but not appropriate ☐ Outcomes, measures, or targets are restated multiple times	☐ 4 SLOs minimum; all are program-level learning outcomes ☐ 2 appropriate measures per outcome; one is direct ☐ Measure instrument and evaluation method are clear ☐ Numerical targets are set; target is appropriate ☐ Overall course grades not used as measures ☐ Language used to describe targets and measures is consistent	☐ Multiple types of measures are used ☐ Additional measures which add value are used
Findings ***(May be found in Findings or Analysis of Findings sections)*** **Comments:**	☐ Findings not entered ☐ Findings not separated by mode of delivery and location (where applicable)	☐ Some findings are missing ☐ Majority of findings were "not reported this period" ☐ Sample sizes not included ☐ Finding statements do not mirror target statements ☐ Findings are not separated by semester and/or state the semester(s) data are from	☐ All findings have data or an acceptable statement entered ☐ All findings are separated by location and mode of delivery, if applicable ☐ Findings are separated by semester and/or state the semester(s) data are from ☐ Sample sizes are included ☐ Target achievement is appropriately marked (met, not met)	☐ All findings have data entered ☐ Language used to describe findings is consistent with the language used for targets and measures
Analysis of Findings ***(in Weave report)***	☐ No findings have a corresponding analysis statement	☐ Analysis restates information already provided ☐ Analysis is perfunctory	☐ Analysis examines why students did or did not meet the target	☐ Analysis includes comparison to previous years' data

Comments:			☐ Majority of the findings have a corresponding analysis statement in Weave ☐ Areas for improvement/change are briefly mentioned	☐ Analysis includes comparison of data between semesters or location and explains why differences may have occurred ☐ Findings are disaggregated within the analysis and disaggregation adds further value

Annual Program and Action Plan Analysis Document				
	1 **Non-compliant**	**2** **Needs improvement**	**3** **Compliant**	**4** **Exemplary**
Action Plans in Weave Report Comments:	☐ No new or current action plans in the Weave report	☐ New/current action plans are perfunctory	☐ Action plans are present ☐ Action plans provide detail on what actions will be taken ☐ Ongoing action plans are appropriately marked "in progress" ☐ Ongoing action plans are discussed	☐ New action plans are based on the analysis of the findings (analysis of data presented in report) ☐ Action plans are directly linked to student learning outcomes.
Additional Action Plans related to SLOs/Program Curriculum Comments:	☐ No new or current action plans in the Additional Action Plans section	☐ New/current action plans are perfunctory	☐ Action plans are present ☐ Action plans provide detail on what actions will be taken ☐ Ongoing action plans are appropriately marked "in progress" ☐ Ongoing action plans are discussed	☐ New action plans are based on the analysis of the findings (analysis of data presented in report) ☐ Action plans are directly linked to student learning outcomes.
Action Plans Completed this Cycle (AY 2023-2024) Comments:	☐ Action plans not updated (old action plans still in "planned" stage)		☐ Completed action plans are marked as completed ☐Discontinued action plans are marked as discontinued, if applicable	
Closing the Loop Narrative Comments:	☐ Closing the loop statement is not provided for completed action plans this cycle	☐ Completed action plans are updated but no context is given ☐ Closing the loop statement is perfunctory	☐ Completed action plans are discussed ☐Discontinued action plans are discussed, if applicable ☐ Completed action plans are examined (using data) to determine if the action(s) led to improvement of student learning	

Program-level Analysis Comments:	☐ No program analysis provided	☐ Program-level analysis is perfunctory ☐ Program-level analysis repeats information found in other sections of the Weave report or analysis document	☐ Analysis evaluates the program as a whole	☐ Overall program analysis provides additional context
Program Inventory Review Comments:	☐ Program review data are not provided ☐ Graduation/enrollment data are not analyzed	☐ Program graduation/enrollment numbers are not disaggregated by emphasis area ☐ Enrollment and graduation analysis is perfunctory ☐ Plans to increase enrollment and/or graduation numbers are vague	☐ Enrollment and graduation numbers are included and match the IR Workbook data ☐ Enrollment and graduation numbers have been analyzed ☐ Each emphasis area is accounted for, if applicable	☐ The program has specific plans to increase enrollment and graduation numbers ☐ The narrative gives a compelling case for the ideal cohort

Additional Comments:	Recommendations: ☐ Address the categories/items marked 1 and 2 in next year's report ☐ See the Office of Institutional Effectiveness for assistance ☐ Keep up the good work
SACSCOC Standard 8.2.a The institution identifies expected outcomes, assesses the extent to which it achieves these outcomes, and provides evidence of seeking improvement based on analysis of the results for student learning outcomes for each of its educational programs.	Compliance: ☐ Compliance with Standard 8.2.a cannot be determined ☐ Report is compliant with Standard 8.2.a ☐ Report documents exemplary compliance with Standard 8.2.a

Appendix B
Weave Cycle 2023-2024 Certificate & Minor Academic Assessment Report Evaluation Rubric

Certificate/Minor:

Weave Report				
	1 **Non-compliant**	**2** **Needs improvement**	**3** **Compliant**	**4** **Exemplary**
Program Description Comments:	☐ Description not entered	☐ Description does not provide adequate context for the certificate/minor	☐ Description provides a clear picture of what the certificate/minor teaches students; description provides context for the program	☐ Hours to certificate/minor completion are included ☐ Lists the careers and/or opportunities that are available to students after completing the certificate/minor
Assessment Plan *(Student Learning Outcomes, Measures, Targets)* Comments:	☐ Less than 2 SLOs ☐ Less than 1 measures per outcome ☐ Overall course grades used as measures ☐ No targets are set	☐ 2 SLOs present; not all are student learning outcomes ☐ 1 measures per outcome, but measure is not appropriate ☐ Measures are unclear ☐ Targets are set but not appropriate ☐ Outcomes, measures, or targets are restated multiple times	☐ 2 SLOs minimum; all are program-level learning outcomes ☐ 1 appropriate measure per outcome; the measure is direct ☐ Measure instrument and evaluation method are clear ☐ Numerical targets are set; target is appropriate ☐ Overall course grades not used as measures ☐ Language used to describe targets and measures is consistent	☐ Multiple types of measures are used ☐ Additional measures which add value are used
Findings *(May be found in Findings or Analysis of Findings sections)* Comments:	☐ Findings not entered ☐ Findings not separated by mode of delivery and location (where applicable)	☐ Some findings are missing ☐ Majority of findings were "not reported this period" ☐ Sample sizes not included ☐ Finding statements do not mirror target statements ☐ Findings are not separated by semester and/or state the semester(s) data are from	☐ All findings have data or an acceptable statement entered ☐ All findings are separated by location and mode of delivery, if applicable ☐ Findings are separated by semester and/or state the semester(s) data are from ☐ Sample sizes are included ☐ Target achievement is appropriately marked (met, not met)	☐ All findings have data entered ☐ Language used to describe findings is consistent with the language used for targets and measures

Analysis of Findings (in Weave report) Comments:	☐ No findings have a corresponding analysis statement	☐ Analysis restates information already provided ☐ Analysis is perfunctory	☐ Analysis examines why students did or did not meet the target ☐ Majority of the findings have a corresponding analysis statement in Weave ☐ Areas for improvement/change are briefly mentioned	☐ Analysis includes comparison to previous years' data ☐ Analysis includes comparison of data between semesters or location and explains why differences may have occurred ☐ Findings are disaggregated within the analysis and disaggregation adds further value

Annual Program and Action Plan Analysis Document

	1 Non-compliant	2 Needs improvement	3 Compliant	4 Exemplary
Action Plans in Weave Report Comments:	☐ No new or current action plans in the Weave report	☐ New/current action plans are perfunctory	☐ Action plans are present ☐ Action plans provide detail on what actions will be taken ☐ Ongoing action plans are appropriately marked "in progress" ☐ Ongoing action plans are discussed	☐ New action plans are based on the analysis of the findings (analysis of data presented in report) ☐ Action plans are directly linked to student learning outcomes.
Additional Action Plans related to SLOs/Program Curriculum Comments:	☐ No new or current action plans in the Additional Action Plans section	☐ New/current action plans are perfunctory	☐ Action plans are present ☐ Action plans provide detail on what actions will be taken ☐ Ongoing action plans are appropriately marked "in progress" ☐ Ongoing action plans are discussed	☐ New action plans are based on the analysis of the findings (analysis of data presented in report) ☐ Action plans are directly linked to student learning outcomes.
Action Plans Completed this Cycle (AY 2023-2024) Comments:	☐ Action plans not updated (old action plans still in "planned" stage)		☐ Completed action plans are marked as completed ☐ Discontinued action plans are marked as discontinued, if applicable	
Closing the Loop Narrative Comments:	☐ Closing the loop statement is not provided for completed action plans this cycle	☐ Completed action plans are updated but no context is given ☐ Closing the loop statement is perfunctory	☐ Completed action plans are discussed ☐ Discontinued action plans are discussed, if applicable ☐ Completed action plans are examined (using data) to determine if the action(s) led to	

		improvement of student learning	
Program-level Analysis **Comments:**	☐ No program analysis provided	☐ Program-level analysis is perfunctory ☐ Program-level analysis repeats information found in other sections of the Weave report or analysis document	☐ Analysis evaluates the program as a whole	☐ Overall program analysis provides additional context
Program Inventory Review **Comments:**	☐ Program review data are not provided ☐ Completion/enrollment data are not analyzed	☐ Certificate/minor completion/enrollment numbers are not disaggregated by emphasis area ☐ Enrollment and graduation analysis is perfunctory ☐ Plans to increase enrollment and/or graduation numbers are vague	☐ Enrollment and graduation (completion) numbers are included and match the IR Workbook data ☐ Enrollment and completion numbers have been analyzed	☐ The certificate/minor has specific plans to increase enrollment and graduation/completion numbers ☐ The narrative gives a compelling case for the ideal cohort

Additional Comments:	**Recommendations:** ☐ Address the categories/items marked 1 and 2 in next year's report ☐ See the Office of Institutional Effectiveness for assistance ☐ Keep up the good work
SACSCOC Standard 8.2.a The institution identifies expected outcomes, assesses the extent to which it achieves these outcomes, and provides evidence of seeking improvement based on analysis of the results for student learning outcomes for each of its educational programs.	**Compliance:** ☐ Compliance with Standard 8.2.a cannot be determined ☐ Report is compliant with Standard 8.2.a ☐ Report documents exemplary compliance with Standard 8.2.a