

Program: Geography, PhD Cycle: 2013-2014				
Outcome/Objective	Measure	Target	Finding	Action Plan
Communication: Geography graduates will demonstrate their ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing to a range of audiences.	Conference Presentation: Students will present their research at a national or international conference.	At least 75% of all PhD students will present their research at least three time during their program. At least one of those presentation will be to a national or international audience.	Status: Not Met: The target has not been met. Only 10 or 38 (26%) current graduate students have presented at least three time in the program at least once to a national or international audience. While the target was not met, the actual percentages are inaccurate as data has only been collected for the past two years. A number of students have given a presentation in prior years that are not captured by these metrics. Nevertheless, the percentage is much below the target so some improvement in this area is suggested.	Based on the low percentage of PhD students who are presenting their work to regional or national audience and to support for the College's Commitment to Communicate Initiative, the department will improve the number of PhD students communicate to external audiences. This will be accomplished through multiple means. Faculty advisors will work with their graduate students to identify appropriate venues for presentation of their research (e.g. AAG, AGU and other appropriate disciplinary meetings). First year+ PhD students will be required to prepare a presentation plan for their research where they identify two venues in which to present their research during their program and will be tracked to help ensure this occurs. GEOG 610 and 611 will be modified to reinforce the importance and value of presenting research to external audiences and 611 will provide additional training in oral presentation skills. The department will work to ensure that additional resources are provided to ensure PhD students can present at appropriate meetings.