Provide an example of the program’s most interesting or important assessment finding that demonstrates the program’s success associated with a program learning outcome.

This is not applicable in the sense that we have now decided to alter the only learning objective evaluated this year (#2). While assessments of other learning objectives are likely to document success, these will be done in future years.

Describe an assessment result that indicates an opportunity for improvement and identify the specific actions the program will take to improve student learning.

Given that performance in the one learning objective assessed this past year was characterized as being anomalously lower than traditionally observed, no specific action is warranted based solely on assessment. However, this learning objective had been targeted for review in 2009-2010; based on analysis of other PhD programs, which showed that only 8% had such a requirement for courses outside a major, and the perceived need to allow more flexibility in our program for course selection, this learning objective is to be formally revised.