Our Mission

Montana State University, the State’s land-grant institution, educates students, creates knowledge and art, and serves communities by integrating learning, discovery and engagement.

Core Themes

1: Educate Students

- Our graduates will have achieved mastery in their major disciplines.
- Our graduates will become active citizens and leaders.
- Our graduates will have a multicultural and global perspective.
- Our graduates understand the ways that knowledge and art are created and applied in a variety of disciplines.
- Our graduates are prepared for careers in their fields.
- We will provide increased access to our educational programs.
- Communities and external stakeholders benefit from broadly defined educational partnerships with MSU.

2: Create Knowledge & Art

- Students, faculty, and staff will create knowledge and art that is communicated widely.

3: Serve Communities

Education as a Public Service

- We help meet a fundamental need of the citizens of Montana by providing degree programs for our students.
- We help meet the educational needs of the citizens of Montana by providing a wide range of educational opportunities to a variety of students.

Service by the MSU Community

- Our students, staff, faculty, and administrators reach out to engage and serve communities.

Service to the MSU Community

- Our students, staff, faculty, and administrators reach in to build the university community.

4: Integrate Learning, Discovery & Engagement

- Each graduate will have had experiences that integrate learning, discovery and engagement.
- Outreach activities will educate students and address the needs of the communities we serve.
- Students, faculty, and staff will create knowledge and art that addresses societal needs.
- MSU is a community that will be characterized by synergy within and across disciplines, roles and functions.

5: Stewardship

Stewardship of the public trust

- The public trusts the institution to operate openly and use resources wisely.

Stewardship of human resources

- The faculty and staff are well-qualified and supported.

Stewardship of our cultural heritage

- MSU will support Native American students, programs, and communities.
- MSU will be an inclusive community, supporting and encouraging diversity.

Stewardship of public resources

- Our publicly provided resources are used efficiently and effectively.

Stewardship of natural resources

- Natural resources are used efficiently and sustainably.
- MSU nurtures a culture of resource conservation and ecological literacy among students, faculty and staff.

Stewardship of physical resources

- Our physical infrastructure (e.g., buildings, equipment, open spaces) will be well-maintained and useful.

For more detail, see the complete document at www.montana.edu/accreditation/MSU_Mission_and_Core_Themes_2011.pdf