

Campus Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

Unit Name: Geosciences Assessment Summary Fall 2007-Spring 2008

Chair: Z. Kilibarda

What are the student learning outcomes in your unit?

Currently we are conducting a pilot assessment plan for assessing our General Education quantitative (mathematical) and Scientific Reasoning Student Learning Outcomes, as they apply directly to geological problems. Specifically we focused on using logical and mathematical means to solve real world problems. The methodology involves embedding the measure(s) in the Introduction to Earth Science courses designed to meet students' general education requirements and to prepare students for further study in the Geosciences. Faculty responsible for the courses will design a test measuring at least one General Education competency as it relates to scientific and quantitative reasoning. This test will be administered as part of the final exam in the course. Students who correctly answer questions related to a particular competency will be considered competent in that particular element of scientific reasoning.

Which outcome did you assess this academic year?

We assessed scientific reasoning outcome.

How did you assess their skills before, during and / or at the end of the semester / academic year?

Six questions were embedded in the final exam that were designed to measure the student's ability to use logical and mathematical means to solve new problems. The results are as follows:

Question 1: 67.6% of students answered correctly; 32.4% answered incorrectly.

Question 2: 72% of students answered correctly; 28% answered incorrectly.

Question 3: 77.2% of students answered correctly; 22.8% answered incorrectly.

Question 4: 66.2% of students answered correctly; 33.8% answered incorrectly.

Question 5: 81.6% of students answered correctly; 18.4% answered incorrectly.

Question 6: 69.8% of students answered correctly; 30.2% answered incorrectly.

The sample size was 136.

Please summarize the data you have collected this semester / academic year.

Summary of the collected data is given in preceding section.

Please describe any programmatic changes you have made or are planning to make based on the data you have collected.

We did not make any changes. We will continue to asses various learning outcomes in future, after we decide at our next department meeting in September 2008, which learning outcome we can asses next.

****Note:** Please use this template to provide the responses to the prompts above.**