

Annual Academic Assessment Report
Department of Geosciences (GEOS)
BA Geography (GEOGBA)
Sep 2023

Report annually to the Dean of the college/school the following:

- **Results of analysis of assessment of Student Learning Outcomes Fall 2022**
 - Procedures for pre-test and posttest changed in Fall 2022, resulting in a lower number of students taking the tests; this should be considered when considering the results observed this year (see below).
 - In *GEOS 2003 World Regional Geography* students scored about 55% (30% in recent years) on the pre-test and improved to around 63% (70% in recent years) on the post-test in the Fall of 2022. Typically, in *GEOS 1123 Human Geography* students scored around 30% (20-30% in recent years) on the pre-test and improve to about 37% (65-70% in recent years) in the post-test. These classes are not in sequence and most students in the classes are not majors and only take one of the two classes, thus there is no cumulative improvement between the two classes.
 - Graduation numbers
 - Between Fall 2022 and Summer 2023, 8 students graduated with the BA degree in Geography (4 in Fall, 4 in Spring). These numbers are within a normal range for the program.
 - Graduate placement is tracked to the extent possible and reported annually to our external advisory board. These data are tabulated in written reports to the advisory board since 2007.
 - Our external advisory board met and provided feedback on our programs in November 2022 and May 2023.

- **Any changes to degree/certificate planned or made on the basis of the assessment and analysis**
 - Until the proposed Geography Capstone class can be offered, we have added a 4000-level section of *History and Philosophy of Geography* (GEOS 4093/5093) to provide a capstone option for seniors. This class includes a history of the discipline as well as a survey of geographic research methods and is structured around research assignments where students can engage in a variety of classroom or field-based projects. Assessment included traditional paper and project-based grades as well as an individual semester long research project. In the first semester that this option was offered six undergraduates took the class in Fall 2019 and 3 in Fall 2020 and all successfully completed the class with passing grades.
- **Any changes to the assessment process made or planned.**
 - Given the change in pre and posttest numbers for this year, (A review of pre and posttest procedures will be reviewed in 2023-2024.