

Annual Academic Assessment Report
Department of Geosciences (GEOS)
BS Earth Science (ERSCBS)
May 2025

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

☐ **Results of analysis of assessment of Student Learning Outcome**

- There has been little change in the results of these tests over the past few years and are primarily focused on the introductory GEOS 1133 Earth Science general elective course.

☐ **Graduation numbers 2024-2025**

- As of 15 May 2025, official graduation numbers for Spring 2025 are not yet available from the Office of Strategic Analytics and Insights; based on that source, a total of 3 students graduated from ERSCBS in 2024, down from 8 in 2023.

☐ **Any changes to degree/certificate planned or made on the basis of the assessment and analysis**

- The updated ERSC BS program starting in the 2024 Catalog year aligns this program better with emerging career and research tracks related to the environment, natural hazards, Earth's climate, and sustainability. These changes were designed after discussions with current and former students, as well as faculty discussions. We saw an opportunity to grow this program with students who may be interested in topics such as environmental science, how earth systems work, and how humans interact with the Earth. The updated program builds on Geosciences' historic strengths in surface processes (e.g.,

geomorphology [faculty vacancy], hydrology, sedimentology), climate, geographic information systems, and big data. With the program change, we shifted and renamed certain existing GEOS courses to align with the updated program, including adopting GEOS 46903 Environmental Justice as the capstone for the ERSCBS major and splitting the 6-hour Geology Field Camp into two 3-hour field camps with GEOS 36703 Environmental Field Methods required for ERSCBS students being taught for the first time under this requirement in Summer 2025.

- GEOS 4693 Environmental Justice was established as the capstone for ERSCBS starting in the 2024 Catalog.

☐ **Any changes to the assessment process made or planned.**

- The assessment plan will need to be updated to reflect the change in capstone and other recent curricular changes.