

Annual Academic Assessment Report
Department of Geosciences (GEOS)
BA Geography (GEOGBA)
May 2018

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

- **Results of analysis of assessment of Student Learning Outcomes**
 - Assessment and analysis of pre- and post-test results will be reported in a separate report related to Geosciences Core Course Assessments. There has been little change in the results of these tests over the past few years. Typically, in *GEOS 1123 Human Geography* students score around 45-50% on the pre-test and improve to about 65% or 70% on the post-test. In *GEOS 2003 World Regional Geography* students typically score about 40% on the pre-test and improve to around 70% on 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 Summer 2017 and Spring 2018 10 students graduated with the BA degree in Geography – this is down slightly from the 13 students who graduated between Summer 2016 and Spring 2017; but 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 October 2017 and May 2018.

- **Any changes to degree/certificate planned or made on the basis of the assessment and analysis**
 - In the 2018-2019 academic year, the Geography BA will be enhanced with the addition of a 3-hour capstone class. The class will include a history of the discipline as well as a survey of geographic research methods and will be structured around two field assignments where students can engage in a variety of field-based projects. Assessment will include traditional paper and project-based grades as well as an individual semester long research project.
- **Any changes to the assessment process made or planned.**
 - In order to better assess the knowledge accumulated by students during their degree program the department is adding a capstone class to the Geography BA degree. Designed to be taken the semester a student graduates exit interviews will also be administered at the end of this class.