

**Annual Academic Assessment Report**  
**Department of Geosciences (GEOS)**  
**MS GEOLOGY (GEOLMS)**  
May 2018

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

**Assessment Results**

- Successful completion of the required Department of Geosciences Colloquium and Geoscience Research Methods courses
  - GEOS 510V Geoscience Research Methods – This class is offered to both Geography (required) and Geology (optional) MS students and so has higher enrollment than the History of Geography class. In Spring 2018 the class had 25 students, they were required to submit two short research papers and a full research proposal. The grades were as follows: 25 enrolled; 17 A; 7 B; 1 F
- Successful completion of 24 credit hours (minimum) of coursework applicable to the student's discipline of geology as prescribed by the M.S. advisory committee
  - Done by all students completing the M.S. Geology degree program
- Annual meetings with the student's M.S. advisory committee
  - Ongoing and reported to graduate school
- Monitoring the degree to which M.S. students present their research at national and international conferences, and scientific publication resulting from their graduate research
  - 13 conference presentations with M.S. Geology student author or co-author
  - 5 refereed publications with M.S. Geology student author or co-author
- Successful defense of a thesis in front of the thesis committee
  - 12 M.S. Geology students completed the degree in this reporting period
- Chair and M.S. Geology Coordinator will track the progress of M.S. graduates after they complete their M.S. degrees
  - See table below

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

Based on assessment and other considerations, changes to the MS Geology degree program have been submitted to bring the program into alignment with modern practice. Primary changes are:

1. 3 credit hours of required courses
  - a. GEOS 5612 Geoscience Research Methods
  - b. GEOS 5011 Colloquium
2. The remaining 21 course credit hours will include
  - a. 12 credit hours of 5000-level courses (not to include unnamed special topic and independent study)
  - b. 9 credit hours to be determined in consultation with the thesis advisor and advisory committee.

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

No changes anticipated based on current year assessment

Data Table for 2017/8:

Asbury, Zack	MS GEOL	City of Springdale, AR		GIS Officer
Bottoms, Bryan	MS GEOL	Tapstone Energy LLC		Associate Geologist
Brunick, Josie	MS GEOL	EOG Resources		Geologist I
Coffey, Thomas	MS GEOL	Halliburton		Tech Professional - Frac/Acid
Morris, Noah	MS GEOL	PhD candidate U Arkansas		
Parry, Sean	MS GEOL	GHD Environment Ltd		Geologist/Hydrologist
Rowden, Kyle	MS GEOL	Buffalo Data Services		Consultant
Ruggeri, Matt	MS GEOL	Independent Geologist		
Rusconi, Francisco	MS GEOL	Tecpetrol (Argentina)		Geologist
Sanks, Kelly	MS GEOL	PhD candidate U Arkansas		
Smirnov, Andrey	MS GEOL	J. B. Hunt Transport		Finance Intern
Stokes, Josh	MS GEOL	Halliburton	DNF	Tech Prof - Production Enhancement
Thaler, Evan	MS GEOL	PhD candidate Umass-Amherst		