Program: Environmental Science

Academic Program Assessment Plan (2017-2018)

1. Please review last year's assessment results (2016-2017) as well as the Academic Program Assessment Report with the faculty in your program. How does your program plan to take these results into consideration in future programmatic planning?

   The instructor was pleased with the results, so I guess we will continue on.

2. Please review your program's Learning Outcomes. Do any of them need to be updated or clarified?

    No.

   a. Please provide brief indications of the kinds of assessment (e.g. course exams, term papers, course projects, senior seminar, senior interview, etc.) that <u>might</u> be used to assess each outcome. (The purpose here is to see that your program has considered ways it might measure each outcome.)

      We haven't really discussed this. In general we do embedded assessment using preexisting course assignments/examinations.

   b. Please compare your Learning Outcomes to the University's main learning objectives: interdisciplinary, problem-focused education; critical thinking; diversity; environmental sustainability; and engaged citizenship. (These objectives were identified in the MLLO Project, which may be found here: http://www.uwgb.edu/MLLO/.) Which programmatic outcomes match university mission outcomes?

      Outcomes are listed below.

      The Environmental Science Program uses embedded assessment within Env Sci courses. We have a capstone course in which students go through all phases of the scientific research process, but this course is not used for all of our assessment; we would prefer to do assessment using a wide array of our course offerings.

      Some of the outcomes (at least 1,2, 3, 6) can be evaluated based on students' demonstration of knowledge, via an exam question or a specific project in a course.

      Outcomes 4 and 5 are more practical, hands-on skills that might perhaps be better evaluated via student performance of a lab activity or a research project.

      Env Sci Outcome 1: Understand fundamental physical and biological processes of the natural environment.

Env Sci Outcome 2: Recognize relationships between humans and ecosystems at local, regional, and global scales.

Env Sci Outcome 3: Apply knowledge from multiple disciplines to environmental challenges and opportunities.

Env Sci Outcome 4: Build practical skills for scientific problem-solving, including familiarity with laboratory and field instrumentation, ability to use current computer technologies, and experience in statistical modeling techniques.

Env Sci Outcome 5: Demonstrate competency in collecting, managing, evaluating, interpreting, and communicating information through hands-on research.

Env Sci Outcome 6: Critically evaluate strategies for sustainable management and restoration of environmental systems.

3. Which outcome will you assess this year (2017-2018)?

   Outcome 2.

4. Which technique will you use to assess this outcome?

   Embedded assessment of Energy, air pollution, and climate change section of Env Sci 102 (Introduction to Environmental Science), taught by Draney.

5. Which course or group of students will you assess on the outcome chosen above and when?

   See above.   Final exam of Spring 2018.