

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE ASSESSMENT PLAN

Department/Program: Environmental Science Major (Interdisciplinary, Overseen by Administrative Committee, not a Department)

Student Learning Objectives (SLO) for MAJORS

- 1: Students will demonstrate sufficient foundational knowledge in the core scientific disciplines essential to assessment of environmental systems: biology, chemistry, and geography.
- 2: Students will demonstrate knowledge of and the ability to analyze the interaction between humans and their environment, and how various disciplines are influenced by environmental issues.
- 3: Students will demonstrate the ability to assess real world environmental systems and/or participate in environmental research.
- 4: Students will demonstrate the ability to communicate environmental assessment and/or environmental research.

Outcome Measure	SLO's	Description of Departmental Use of Data
Average GPA in courses from the above disciplines, which are (1) a subset of all courses required in the major, and (2) outside the influence of the administrative committee.	1	ENVS Chair reviews GPA (computed annually for graduating seniors, reviewed as necessary) to ensure a sufficient number of students are achieving at least a 3.0 average; recommendations are made to the administrative committee regarding possible curriculum changes.
Samples of coursework from disciplinary science courses being offered for environmental science credit in a particular semester will be collected from environmental science majors (Bio, Chem, Geo). Items to be collected will be determined by consultation between program chair, disciplinary representative on admin. committee, and instructor(s) of disciplinary course(s).	1	Work will be reviewed by the ENVS Chair and appropriate committee members (those familiar with the selected discipline); consistency between quality of work and trends from examination of GPA will be sought. Recommendations are made to the administrative committee regarding possible curriculum or assessment plan changes.
Analytical writing sample with significant environmental content from appropriate VU courses will be collected from students taking ENVS 499.	2,4	ENVS Chair will collect a writing sample from each graduating senior. The chair in consultation with a panel of ENVS committee members will assess the quality of the writing and demonstrated knowledge (SLO 2 and 4); recommendations are made to the administrative committee if stronger writing

Junior or Senior year oral and/or written presentation of an independent research project, environmental internship / co-op, or other environmentally significant activity undertaken by the student.	3,4	components in the curriculum are indicated. The chair accompanied by interested ENVS committee members assess oral or written presentations; if any deficiencies are detected recommendations are made to the administrative committee regarding possible curriculum changes
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1. **Results**—Review activities and findings by completing the Assessment Activities Table below. You can also provide a brief discussion afterward if you feel it would help the committee understand your assessment activities and findings during this cycle.

Assessment Activities Table

This year we assessed SLO(s)... (list each SLO in its own row)	...using Outcome Measure(s) (OMs). (See Report Instructions for description and example) Direct OM(s): Indirect OM(s):	Findings: program-performance for these SLOs, as indicated by these OMs, is: Excellent/Satisfactory/Needs Improvement (See Report Instructions for description and example)	Strategies for Improvement (in selected areas): (See Report Instructions for description and example)
SLO1			
SLO2			
SLO3			
SLO4			

Discussion (Optional):

2. What **revisions**, if any, to current SLOs and/or outcome measures did you make from previous plan? Provide the rationale for any change(s).
3. **Plans**- What learning objectives will you be assessing in the next cycle?