



Student Learning Outcome Assessment Plan

Department: Geography
Degree Program: BA-Geography

Student Learning Outcome (performance, knowledge, attitudes)	Related CWU Strategic Outcome(s) http://www.cwu.edu/strategic-planning/	Method(s) of Assessment (What is the assessment?)*	Who Assessed (Students from what courses - population)**	When Assessed (term, dates)***	Standard of Mastery/ Criterion of Achievement (How good does performance have to be?)
1. Students will demonstrate improved familiarity with the basic geography of the Earth, especially the distribution of countries, major cities, and key physical features.	1.1.1 Students will achieve programmatic learning outcomes.	Geography Comprehensive Exam Part A – a 40 question exam prepared by Geography Department faculty which tests place knowledge students should have gained in introductory core courses and which should have been reinforced in more advanced upper-level offerings.	<u>Entrance:</u> All students declaring the major. <u>Exit:</u> Students enrolled in Geography 489: Geography Capstone	<u>Entrance:</u> At the time major is declared, an arrangement will be made for each student to complete the Geography Comprehensive Exam. <u>Exit:</u> Fall and Spring quarters	<u>Entrance:</u> No standard of mastery for performance – testing at major entrance used to establish baseline for later assessment. <u>Exit:</u> Average student performance on the mapping section of the exam will be a score of 70% and at least 25 percentage points higher than the average score of students at admission to the major.
2. Students will demonstrate improved familiarity with the discipline’s vocabulary, concepts and themes.	1.1.1 Students will achieve programmatic learning outcomes.	Geography Comprehensive Exam Part B – an 80 question exam prepared by Geography Department faculty which tests knowledge students should have gained in introductory core courses and which should have been reinforced in more advanced upper-level offerings.	<u>Entrance:</u> All students declaring the major. <u>Exit:</u> Students enrolled in	<u>Entrance:</u> At the time major is declared, an arrangement will be made for each student to complete the Geography Comprehensive Exam. <u>Exit:</u> Fall and	<u>Entrance:</u> No standard of mastery for performance – testing at major entrance used to establish baseline for later assessment. <u>Exit:</u> Average student performance on the

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			Geography 489: Geography Capstone	Spring quarters	multiple choice conceptual section of the exam will be a score of 70% and at least 25 percentage points higher than the average score of students at admission to the major.
3. Students will demonstrate improved critical thinking ability with respect to the interactions of human systems and physical systems, the networks of intra-and inter-national interdependence, and the manner in which human and physical systems modify each other and control the Earth's surface and resources.	1.1.1 Students will achieve programmatic learning outcomes.	Critical thinking essay assigned in Geography 250: Natural Resource Conservation Critical thinking essay assigned in Geography 489: Geography Capstone	<u>Mid-career</u> : All majors must take 250, typically midway between admission to the major and graduation. <u>Exit</u> : Students enrolled in Geography 489: Geography Capstone.	<u>Mid-career</u> : Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters <u>Exit</u> : Fall and Spring quarters	<u>Mid-career</u> : No standard of mastery for performance – evaluation at major entrance used to establish baseline for later assessment. <u>Exit</u> : Using the same rubric and with the same general parameters (e.g., page length), the average score will be at least 25 percentage points higher than the average score of students at mid-career.
4. Students will be effectively prepared by the Department of Geography for future careers.	1.1.1 Students will achieve programmatic learning outcomes.	Evidence from resume produced for and exit interview conducted during Capstone class	<u>Exit</u> : Students in Capstone course	<u>Exit</u> : Fall and Spring quarters	<u>Exit</u> : At least 80 percent of students in Capstone will produce resumes that highlight at least 3 specific ways (specific courses, internships, significant assignments, skills learned during Geography coursework) in which their curriculum in Geography has prepared them their chosen careers. <u>Exit</u> : At least 80 percent of students in Capstone will be able to effectively articulate at least 3 specific ways (specific courses, internships, significant assignments, skills learned during Geography coursework) in which their curriculum in Geography has prepared them their chosen careers.
5. Students will be effectively prepared by the Department of Geography for future careers.	1.1.1 Students will achieve programmatic learning outcomes.	In conjunction with periodic program review, alumni will be surveyed concerning their experiences in the department and after graduation	<u>Post-program</u> : Alumni	<u>Post-program</u> : Every four to five years	<u>Post-program</u> At least 60 percent of alumni will report success in gaining relevant professional employment or admission to graduate school after graduation.

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6. Students will be able to communicate effectively in oral, written and a variety of graphical forms	1.1.1 Students will achieve programmatic learning outcomes.	Portfolios prepared by majors for Geography 489: Geography Capstone	<u>Exit</u> : Students enrolled in Geography 489: Geography Capstone	<u>Exit</u> : Fall and Spring quarters annually	<u>Exit</u> : At least 80 percent of portfolios will contain all of the following: a) at least one paper of five or more pages in length prepared for an upper-level geography course and given a score of B or better; b) evidence of an oral presentation in an upper-level geography course given a score of B or better; and c) evidence of a poster presentation, map project or other graphical assignment in an upper-level geography course given a score of B or better.
7. Students will be able to effectively integrate ideas and information from human geography, physical geography, resource geography, regional geography, and techniques courses.	1.1.1 Students will achieve programmatic learning outcomes.	Field trip/poster assignment in Geography 489: Geography Capstone	<u>Exit</u> : Students enrolled in Geography 489: Geography Capstone	<u>Exit</u> : Fall and Spring quarters annually	<u>Exit</u> : At least 80 percent of students will receive a score of 70% or better on the field trip/poster assignment.

*Method(s) of assessment should include those that are both direct (tests, essays, presentations, projects) and indirect (surveys, interviews) in nature

**Data needs to be collected and differentiated by location (Ellensburg campus vs University Centers) and modality (face-to-face, online)

***Timing of assessment should ideally be at different transition points of program (i.e., admission, mid-point, end-of-program, post-program)

Assessment Cycle

Analysis and Interpretation: December
Improvement Actions: Completed by June
Dissemination: Completed by June

Year SLOs	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21
1	x	x	x	x	x	x
2	x	x	x	x	x	x
3	x	x	x	x	x	x
4	x	x	x	x	x	x
5				x		
6	x	x	x	x	x	x
7	x	x	x	x	x	x

Assessment Oversight

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