

2022- 23 & 2023 - 24 General Education Assessment Plan

Department: Department of Natural Sciences

Date:9/28/2022

General Education Committee has selected the following area for the 2022-23 & 2023 -24 assessment cycles:
COMMUNICATION: to demonstrate effective communication skills for personal, academic and professional purposes.

General Education Committee: Background: What factors caused the committee to choose this particular assessment outcome? The committee selected this outcome based upon the emphasis on developing a strong knowledge base in the general education curriculum.

Department: *What student outcome will the department assess that addresses effective communication skills for personal, academic or professional purposes”?*

Students can communicate scientific topics in a manner appropriate to an informed layperson.

Department: *What specific question(s) are you attempting to answer through assessing this student outcome? What are you trying to find out? There may be more than one question, but no more than three.*

(1) Can students accurately explain scientific ideas?

(2) Can students use effective and appropriate communication techniques to do so?

Methodology:

1. **OBJECT*** - *What data (i.e. artifact, exam score, detailed description of assignment) will be collected?* Papers from Agri 102, Presentations from Bio 110, HW Assignment from Sci 202, Journal Reviews from Sci 365, and Papers from Sci 331.
 - a. *How does this data address the assessment question?* Each requires students to explain scientific ideas, not in a technical form but at a level of an informed layperson.
 - i. *Include/attach a description/example of assessment tool to be used.*
2. *How will data be collected?* A random sample of artifacts collected from students will be retained, and will be assessed collectively by the department in its widely anticipated spring assessment.

Analysis of Artifacts: PERFORMANCE CRITERIA* - Discuss :

- 1) How the artifacts will be analyzed (attach rubrics/scoring tools if used): Artifacts will be assessed using a 5-point Likert scale attached.
- 2) How you will know if it is good (i.e. score required by % of students): If at least 80% of students score at least a 3 then we will be entirely successful. If fewer than 50% of students score above a 3 (or if more than 50% score below a 2) we will be failing horribly. If at least 65% of students score above a 3 and fewer than 40% score a 2 or below then we will be doing fairly well.

Submitted by: Robert Hermann

Date: 9/28/2022

Assessment Committee Reviewed (Date): 11/1/22

Department Chair notified of approval/or additional action needed: Approved 11/1/22