

Academic Program Name:	Biology
Academic Program Assessment Coordinator:	F. Lux
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Program Goal (Unit Goal)	Student Learning Outcome	Means and Frequency of Assessment	Expected Outcome (Indicator or Success)	Summary of Data Collected	Use of Results/Plans for Improvement
1. Students graduating with a B.S. degree in biology will possess an understanding of a broad spectrum of the accumulated knowledge in the field of biology.	Biology graduates will demonstrate an understanding of (1) cell biology, (2) molecular biology & genetics, (3) organismal biology, and (4) population biology, evolution, & ecology.	Major Field Test (MFT) in Biology. Administered annually to graduating seniors enrolled in BIOL 499.	Average score will be no lower than the national average score for each sub-discipline.	Average scores (Lander/National) by sub-discipline: (1) 55/54 (2) 59/54 (3) 55/54 (4) 52/53	Lander average scores in 3 of 4 sub-disciplines were higher than the national averages. The Lander mean score in (4) <i>population, evolution & ecology</i> was 1% below the national average. MFT will be administered again (for the 2 nd time) to the class of 2010. Data will be evaluated to determine whether the relationship between Lander and national average scores

					are consistent. If Lander sub-scores (4) are again lower than national averages, then the faculty will discuss ways to improve student performance in this area.
		Senior Exit Interview. Administered annually to graduating seniors.	At least 75% of all respondents will agree or strongly agree that this goal was met.	Class of 2006: 89%, class of 2007: 100%, class of 2008: 93%, and class of 2009: 100% of respondents agree or strongly agree that this goal was met.	Program goal met. No action taken.
		Biology Alumni Survey. Administered every four years at interim & full program reviews for the SC Commission on Higher Education (CHE).	At least 75% of all respondents will agree or strongly agree that this goal was met.	100% of all respondents to 2005 Alumni Survey agreed or strongly agreed that this goal was met. Next survey to be administered in 2010 at time of full program review.	Program goal met. No action taken.

<p>2. Students graduating with a B.S. degree in biology will be exposed to a broad range of biological laboratory techniques and technologies.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Laboratory Techniques Folio. Assessed every four years at interim & full program reviews.</p>	<p>Folio will include a broad range of techniques</p>	<p>Folio compiled in 2005 documented that biology majors were exposed to a broad range of biological techniques and technologies. Next folio to be compiled in 2010 at time of full program review.</p>	<p>Program goal met. No action taken.</p>
		<p>Senior Exit Interview. Administered annually to graduating seniors.</p>	<p>At least 75% of all respondents will agree or strongly agree that this goal was met.</p>	<p>Class of 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009: 100% of respondents agree or strongly agree that this goal was met.</p>	<p>Program goal met. No action taken.</p>
		<p>Biology Alumni Survey. Administered every four years at interim & full program reviews for the CHE.</p>	<p>At least 75% of all respondents will agree or strongly agree that this goal was met.</p>	<p>In the 2005 Biology Alumni Survey 100% of all respondents agreed or strongly agreed that this goal was met. Next survey to be administered in 2010 at time of full program</p>	<p>Program goal met. No action taken.</p>

				review.	
3. Students graduating with a B.S. degree in biology will be able to successfully enter and compete in graduate or professional school programs, or be able to secure employment in an area of science.	N/A	Biology Alumni Survey. Administered every four years at interim & full program reviews for the CHE.	At least 80% of all respondents who express an opinion will agree or strongly agree that the biology major prepared them for entry into graduate/professional school.	97% of all respondents who expressed an opinion in the 2005 Alumni Survey agreed or strongly agreed that this goal was met. Next survey to be administered in 2010 at time of full program review.	Program goal met. No action taken.
			At least 80% of all respondents who express an opinion will agree or strongly agree that the biology major prepared them for employment in a scientific field.	95% of all respondents who expressed an opinion in the 2005 Alumni Survey agreed or strongly agreed that this goal was met. Next survey to be administered in 2010 at time of	Program goal met. No action taken.

				full program review.	
4. Students graduating with a B.S. degree in biology will possess an understanding of the vocabulary of the discipline and be able to communicate concepts in biology through the proper use of this vocabulary.	Biology graduates will demonstrate an understanding of biological vocabulary.	Student presentations in BIOL 499 are assessed annually using a three point scale (1: novice, 2: proficient, 3: advanced). Rubric and scoring sheet attached.	At least 75% of all students will score a 2 (proficient) or higher.	77% of students in class of 2009 scored a 2 or higher.	Program goal met. Assessment rubric will be used again with class of 2010.
	Biology graduates will demonstrate the ability to communicate biological concepts through the proper use of the vocabulary of the discipline.	Student presentations in BIOL 499 are assessed annually using a three point scale (1: novice, 2: proficient, 3: advanced). Rubric and scoring sheet attached.	At least 75% of all students will score a 2 (proficient) or higher.	77% of students in class of 2009 scored a 2 or higher.	Program goal met. Assessment rubric will be used again with class of 2010.

		Senior Exit Interview. Administered annually to graduating seniors.	At least 75% of all respondents will agree or strongly agree that this goal was met.	Class of 2006: 80%, class of 2007: 100%, class of 2008: 93%, and class of 2009: 100% of respondents agree or strongly agree that this goal was met.	Program goal met. No action taken.
		Biology Alumni Survey. Administered every four years at interim & full program reviews.	At least 75% of all respondents will agree or strongly agree that this goal was met.	100% of all respondents to 2005 Alumni Survey agreed or strongly agreed that this goal was met. Next survey to be administered in 2010 at time of full program review.	Program goal met. No action taken.