

ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR

Bachelor of Science with a major in Environmental Science (BS)
Instructional Degree Program

Spring 2003
Assessment Period Covered

May 9, 2003
Date Submitted

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose Linkage:

Institutional Mission Reference:

Texas A&M International University, a Member of The Texas A&M University System, is committed to the preparation of students for leadership roles in their chosen profession and in increasingly complex, culturally diverse state, national, and global society ... Through instruction, faculty and student research, and public service, Texas A&M International University is a strategic point of delivery for well-defined programs and services that improve the quality of life for citizens of the border region, the State of Texas, and national and international communities.

College/University Goal(s) Supported:

The faculty and administrators of the Department of Biology and Chemistry are committed to providing a scholarly environment, which prepares students for productive lives in a dynamic world and in a changing global and technologically advancing environment. To this end faculty encourage students for the following: 1) Developing the ability to think critically and communicate effectively. 2) Pursuing a broad base of knowledge base of a specialized discipline, and 4) Contributing to appropriate community-based activities as beginning professionals. To assist in meeting these goals, faculty recognize the need for, and are committed to, on-going professional development through education, practice, community service, research, and scholarly publications.

Intended Educational (Student) Outcomes:

- 1.** Students will demonstrate competence of the major concepts in the Environmental Sciences.
- 2.** Students will acquire understanding of major regional and global environmental issues and necessary relevant skills in these areas.
- 3.** Students performance in research based independent studies and/or research projects on locally relevant environmental issues.

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Intended Educational (Student) Outcome:

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1. Students will demonstrate competence of the major concepts in the Environmental Sciences.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

1a. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success:

A committee composed of environmental sciences faculty will administer an oral exit examination to graduating seniors to assess their competence in the environmental sciences.

Desired outcome is 70% or greater pass rate.

1a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected:

The Environmental Sciences Degree Program is small and does not have seniors or graduating seniors this semester (spring 2003), hence it was not possible to collect any data to evaluate the program. An exit exam has been compiled and has been filed at the provost's office for students who might reach senior status this fall.

1a. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program:

With the absence of any data, we are unable to assess the environmental sciences degree program or make recommendations to improve the instructional program at this time.

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

1b. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success:

Upon graduating, students will complete an online survey, where 70% will agree with the statement, "In the field of environmental sciences, I feel as well prepared as the majority of individuals on the region who have completed a similar degree during the past year."

1b. Summary of Assessment Data Collected:

The Environmental Sciences Degree Program is small and does not have seniors or graduating seniors this semester (spring 2003); hence, it was not possible to collect any data to evaluate the program.

1b. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program:

With the absence of any data, we are unable to assess the environmental sciences degree program or make recommendations to improve the instructional program at this time.

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2. Students will acquire understanding of major regional and global environmental issues and necessary relevant skills in these areas.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

2a. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success:

A majority of students will be employed upon graduation in environmentally related careers.

2a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected:

The Environmental Sciences Degree Program is small and does not have seniors or graduating seniors this semester (spring 2003), hence it was not possible to collect any data to evaluate the program.

2a. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program:

With the absence of any data, we are unable to assess the environmental sciences degree program or make recommendations to improve the instructional program at this time.

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

2b. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success:

An online assessment tool developed and deployed by environmental science faculty members will be administered to graduating seniors and alumni who have graduated within a year of the program. The desired rating is 70% (Good to excellent).

2b. Summary of Assessment Data Collected:

The Environmental Sciences Degree Program is small and does not have seniors or graduating seniors this semester (spring 2003), hence it was not possible to collect any data to evaluate the program.

2b. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program:

With the absence of any data, we are unable to assess the environmental sciences degree program or make recommendations to improve the instructional program at this time.

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Intended Educational (Student) Outcome:

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3. Students performance in research based independent studies and/or research projects on locally relevant environmental issues.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

3a. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success:

Evaluation of all students engaged in independent studies / research projects by a committee of environmental sciences faculty. The desired rating is 70% (good to excellent).

3a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected:

The Environmental Sciences Degree Program is small and does not have seniors or graduating seniors this semester (spring 2003), hence it was not possible to collect any data to evaluate the program.

3a. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program:

With the absence of any data, we are unable to assess the environmental sciences degree program or make recommendations to improve the instructional program at this time.

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

3b. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success:

Evaluation of student presented research by a committee of environmental sciences faculty at venues such as the annual TAMU Research Conference, workshops and/or professional meetings.

3b. Summary of Assessment Data Collected:

The Environmental Sciences Degree Program is small and does not have seniors or graduating seniors this semester (spring 2003), hence it was not possible to collect any data to evaluate the program.

3b. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program:

With the absence of any data, we are unable to assess the environmental sciences degree program or make recommendations to improve the instructional program at this time.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

SOURCE	LOCATION/Special Instructions
Oral Exit Examination	
Online Survey	
Evaluation of students in Independent Study	
Evaluation of Student Research	