

# **Comprehensive Report**

2020 - 2021

Program (CAS) - GEOG - Geography (BA) - 252

# **General Information**

### **Program Mission Statement**

The Department of Geography advances geography instruction, research and extension to promote and maintain a growing statewide workforce skilled in geographic research and applications. The Department of Geography will achieve national and international stature in scholarly and creative activities to enhance the visibility and desirability of the geography program at Oklahoma State University, and capitalize on new opportunities and respond to the changing needs of Oklahomans and society to provide Oklahoma schools, universities, industries and businesses, and those in the surrounding region, with the highest caliber professionals in the field of geography.

Departmental instructional goals are: to advance geographic education and cultivate in students an appreciation of the diversity and complexity of cultural and natural landscapes, to help students acquire substantive knowledge in geography, to become skilled in the use and application of geotechniques, and to develop sound critical thinking abilities and strong communication skills. Our program will prepare students to continue their studies at the graduate level, or to pursue careers in business, government, and education.

# **Program Information**

Program Information - 2020 - 2021

# **Program Four Column Report**

#### Outcomes

Knowledge - Students will be able to think geographically. More specifically, program graduates will demonstrate an ability to identify, interpret, and reason analytically about spatial patterns and their possible causes and consequences.

**Outcome Status:** Active Planned Assessment Year:

2017 - 2018, 2018 - 2019, 2019 - 2020, 2020 - 2021,

2016 - 2017

Start Date: **Archived Date:** 

Outcome Type: Knowledge **Reason for Archival:** 

Assessment Methods

GEOG 3333 is taught once per year (currently in the fall) and the instructor will assess all GEOG majors enrolled in the course. No student action or active participation is necessary. There were 9 students enrolled in GEOG 3333 in Fall 2016.

\* Learning Outcome Goal/Benchmark: **Timeline for Assessment:** 

Other Assessment Type:

**Findings** 

Use of Findings (Actions)

Rating of Skills - GEOG 2344

has recently taken the place of GEOG 3333 as a require course to test spatial knowledge. The focus for BA students is now on a general understand of geospatial techniques not isolated to spatial analysis/quantitative statistics. The instructor of this course will evaluate student skills and comprehenstion.

\* Learning Outcome Goal/Benchmark: The benchmark for this course is a 3.5/5.

Timeline for Assessment: This course is taught both semesters every year. Other Assessment Type:

Research - Students will demonstrate the ability to set up and conduct a field-based research project.

Outcome Status: Active **Planned Assessment Year:** 2017 - 2018, 2018 - 2019, 2019 - 2020, 2020 - 2021,

2016 - 2017

Start Date:

GEOG 4313 is taught once per year (currently in the fall) and the instructor will assess all GEOG majors enrolled in the course.

\* Learning Outcome Goal/Benchmark: Timeline for Assessment:

Yearly

Reporting Period: 2020 - 2021 Conclusion: 3 - Meets **Program Expectations** (Proficient) 2 students enrolled and completed the course. They scored proficient and advanced in all categories and Outcomes. (09/27/2021)

Use of Findings (Actions): No recommendations(09/27/202 **Outcomes** 

Assessment Methods

**Findings** 

Use of Findings (Actions)

**Archived Date:** 

Outcome Type: Knowledge Reason for Archival:

Other Assessment Type:

**Number of Students** 

Assessed: 2

**Number of Successful** 

Students: 2

How were students selected

to participate in the

assessment of this outcome?:

Enrolled in the course and

finished the coursework

What do the findings suggest about student achievement of

this learning outcome?:

Students outcomes in the BA

continue to meet expectations.

Research Design - Students will understand and apply the principles of (a) geographic information system design and management and (b) effective map design and interpretation.

**Outcome Status:** Active Planned Assessment Year:

2017 - 2018, 2018 - 2019,

2019 - 2020, 2020 - 2021, 2016 - 2017

Start Date: **Archived Date:** 

Outcome Type: Knowledge Reason for Archival:

Most courses are taught once Reporting Period: 2020 - 2021 Use of Findings (Actions): Reper year, though GEOG 4203 (Introduction to GIS) is currently taught every fall and spring semester, and the instructors will assess all GEOG majors enrolled in the courses. Evaluation rubrics are distributed to each instructor of a required (core) Students: 0 course near the end of each semester, with the students' names and each course's stated student learning outcomes listed. Instructors rate each student on a 0-4 scale for each outcome (0 for minimal to no mastery of the outcome, 4 for maximal mastery), as described in the department Undergraduate Assessment Plan and as assessed by the instructors of each core course. Average scores for each course and learning outcome are determined each year. Rubric items are assessed independently on the 0-4 scale separately from specific grades earned in the class. Instructors primarily base their evaluations on individual assignments and term projects in the pertinent courses, identifying specific 9 assignments or components that meet the major course

Conclusion: 2 - Meets Minimum Program Expectations (Developing) N/A(09/26/2021) **Number of Students** Assessed: 0 **Number of Successful** 

How were students selected to participate in the

assessment of this outcome?:

Students were enrolled in the

What do the findings suggest about student achievement of this learning outcome?: N/A

evaluate 4203 as part of the BA program(09/26/2021)

Outcomes

# Assessment Methods

learning goals, and they are encouraged to rate students on the individual learning outcomes prior to determining final course grades.

\* Learning Outcome Goal/Benchmark: Timeline for Assessment:

Each Semester

Other Assessment Type:

**Findings** 

Use of Findings (Actions)

Career - Express positive feedback on their experience as a Geography undergraduate major and their preparedness for postgraduate employment.

Outcome Status: Active **Planned Assessment Year:** 2017 - 2018, 2020 - 2021, 2016 - 2017

Start Date: **Archived Date:** 

Outcome Type: Knowledge Reason for Archival:

Timeline 4A: Exit Surveys will be administered approximately one month before students graduate each term (Fall, Spring, and Summer) and results will be aggregated. There are items that can be rated on a 0-4 scale and averaged, as well as open-ended items that cover a variety of topics of interest to the faculty. 14 Timeline 4B: The Survey of Alumni from Undergraduate Programs is administered in the spring of each even-numbered year. and results will thus be incorporated into the annual assessment report every other year as available.

\* Learning Outcome Goal/Benchmark: Timeline for Assessment:

Each Semester

Other Assessment Type:

Reporting Period: 2020 - 2021 Use of Findings (Actions):

**Program Expectations** 

(Unacceptable) Exit surveys are under

evaluation for this year. We are requesting official university exit surveys, but plan to re-evaluate the whole system finally for 2021-2022.

(09/27/2021)

**Number of Students** 

Assessed: 0

**Number of Successful** 

Students: 0

How were students selected to participate in the

assessment of this outcome?:

N/A

What do the findings suggest about student achievement of this learning outcome?: N/A

Reporting Period: 2020 - 2021 Conclusion: 2 - Meets

Minimum Program

Expectations (Developing)

reported(09/26/2021)

**Number of Students** 

Assessed: 0

**Number of Successful** 

Students: 0

How were students selected to participate in the

assessment of this outcome?:

No primary BAs awarded

What do the findings suggest about student achievement of this learning outcome?: We

Conclusion: 1 - Does Not Meet Retrieve exit surveys from

University. Conduct our own.

Use of Findings (Actions): Re-

evaluate the BA

program(09/26/2021)

(09/27/2021)

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**Outcomes** 

#### Assessment Methods

# **Findings**

Use of Findings (Actions)

need to perform surveys with current students to understand why the BA is an appropriate choice for some students as enrollment remains low

**Communication - Students** will demonstrate effective written and oral presentation skills.

**Outcome Status:** Active Planned Assessment Year: 2017 - 2018, 2018 - 2019, 2019 - 2020, 2020 - 2021, 2016 - 2017

Start Date: **Archived Date:** 

Outcome Type: Skills Reason for Archival:

The assessment will be based on a representative written assignment and an oral presentation from GEOG 4313 (the acting Geography capstone course). The course will be taught once per year in the fall, as noted in Timeline 2A. The representative written assignment will be given to the Assessment committee for evaluation. The oral presentation will be assessed by the 4313 instructor. The evaluators will be responsible for assessing the projects based on university rubrics (Appendix II)

\* Learning Outcome Goal/Benchmark: Timeline for Assessment:

Yearly

Other Assessment Type:

Conclusion: 2 - Meets Minimum Program

Expectations (Developing) No data

reported(09/26/2021)

**Number of Students** 

Assessed: 0 **Number of Successful** 

Students: 0

How were students selected to participate in the assessment of this outcome?:

Enrolled in the course

What do the findings suggest about student achievement of this learning outcome?: N/A

Reporting Period: 2020 - 2021 Use of Findings (Actions): This has been an unsuccessful Outcome and will be modified in future years to better suit the course's actual work. During the annual showing of research for GEOG 4313, the Assessment Coordinator will solicit input on the presentations of the students of the course. This will be used for future assessments and is actually a valuable artifact.

**Annual Executive Summary** 

Annual Executive Summaries - 2020 - 2021

(09/27/2021)

# **Executive Summary**

**Program Assessment Coordinator** 

Donald E Colley III

Plan Review and Approval

**Date Current Plan Was Reviewed and Approved** 

09/27/2021

**Date of Future Plan Review and Approval** 

09/01/2022

**Summary of Assessment Findings** 

Describe overall assessment findings and faculty members' interpretation of the assessment results

The BA continues to suffer from a lack of enrollment, but of the individual students assessed, they continue to perform well in their respective courses. There are no recommended changes to the BA program. Enrollment will always be lower due to the Foreign Language requirement and the appearance that a BA lacks compared to a BS.

# **Dissemination of Findings**

Describe the individual(s) or committee responsible for reviewing and interpreting assessment data

The Undergraduate Coordinator and the Graduate Assessment Coordinator

Describe the process for sharing and discussing assessment findings with program faculty

Information was discussed and written document provided at Fall Faculty Planning Meeting 2021

## **Program Improvements Based on Assessment**

Based on data collected this year, what changes are being considered or planned for the program?

N/A

Based on this year's findings, what (if any) changes are planned for the assessment process?

Exit Surveys must be gathered to better understand enrollment trends and career prospects. Evaluation of student work for Capstone courses needs revised.

Describe the process for implementing these changes/planned program improvements

Work with the instructor of GEOG 4313 and solicit feedback from all faculty on undergraduate research. Contact the University to receive Exit Surveys.

#### Program Improvements Made in the Last Year

**Course Improvements** 

"Other" Improvements

#### **Goals for the Coming Year**

Increase enrollment, graduate majors

Is this program report ready for review?

Yes

This program report could not be completed due to low student enrollment

List all individuals associated with this report preparation

Don Colley

Jon Comer

**Related Documents**