Expected Outcomes: Skills

Students will have a strong foundation in the basic sciences along with a specialty skill aligned with their chosen track (General, Biological Science, Engineering Science, Physical Science, or Soil Science).

Related typical general education outcomes:

1. Information Literacy
2. Ability to Solve Open-Ended Problems
3. Scientific Literacy

Assessment methods

Method: Basic skills exit exam

Currently, there is no basic skills exit exam for ENVI. To remedy this situation, a basic skills exit exam that covers information essential to all ENVI students, regardless of track, will be developed. Exam questions will be requested from faculty involved in ENVI, followed by development of the exam by the ENVI Coordinator. The exam will be administered in a new 4000 level ENVI course described in the ‘additional comments’ section.

Findings:

None to date

How did you use findings for improvement?

N/A

Additional comments:

Administration of the Environmental Science major (ENVI) was shifted from the College of Engineering to the College of Agriculture in 2011. Currently, there is no senior level ENVI course where assessment methods can be implemented. To remedy the lack of venue for assessment of the ENVI major, the following actions are being taken: The highest-level ENVI course currently available is: ENVI 2010, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SEMINAR (1). This course is being changed to a two-hour course at the 4000 level. The increase from 2000 to 4000 level will allow a “place” for senior level assessment methods to be implemented. The increase from 1 hour to 2 hours will allow plenty of class time for assessment plus writing assignments for the ENVI writing plan. This course change was submitted to the College of Agriculture Curriculum Committee, and is being revised to accommodate their suggested changes.

Method: Student exit survey

Currently, there is no exit survey for ENVI students. To remedy this situation, an exit survey that covers information regarding students’ opinions of the major, tracks, instructors, and facilities will be developed. The exit survey will be developed by the ENVI Coordinator based on successful exit surveys from other academic majors. The exit survey will be administered in a new 4000 level ENVI course described in the ‘additional comments’ section.

Findings:
None to date.

How did you use findings for improvement?

N/A

Additional comments:

Same as for the previous assessment method.

**Method**: Certification exam

Currently, no extramural exam is used for assessment or certification of ENVI students. To remedy this situation, students will be encouraged to take the Environmental Professional Intern Certification Exam, which leads to the Qualified Environmental Professional Certification Exam; http://www.ipep.org/about.html). Faculty assistance for students desiring to sit for this extramural exam will be provided in a new 4000 level ENVI course described in the “additional comments” section.

**Findings**:

None to date.

How did you use findings for improvement?

N/A

Additional comments:

Same as for the previous assessment method.

**Expected Outcomes: Jobs/Graduate School**

Students will be well prepared for entrance into the work force or graduate school.

Related typical general education outcomes:

1. Information Literacy
2. Ability to Solve Open-Ended Problems
3. Scientific Literacy

**Assessment methods**

**Method**: Job placement/graduate school admission

Currently, no post graduation tracking of ENVI students is done. To remedy this situation, post graduation tracking of ENVI students will be implemented by the ENVI Coordinator. Tracking will be aided by the existence of a new 4000 level ENVI course described in the “additional comments” section, i.e., that course will provide a time when ENVI faculty can obtain final individual ENVI student status information before they leave the university. Moreover, the ENVI Coordinator will develop a system for tracking ENVI alumni after they leave the university.

**Findings**:

None to date.

How did you use findings for improvement?

N/A
Additional comments:

Same as for the previous assessment method.