



College of Letters and Science

2002 Annual Survey and Report of Departmental Assessment Practices

Please return to Dean Certain by May 24, 2002
 c/o Associate Academic Planner Elaine Klein
 307-E South Hall, 1055 Bascom Mall, Madison WI 53706

Department Name: Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences

I. Assessment Plan

- Q1. The department has an assessment plan for the undergraduate program. Y N
- Q2. The department has an assessment plan for the graduate program. Y N
- Q3. The assessment plan/s is/are linked to articulated outcome goals for your majors. Y N

Please identify the types of tools in the assessment plan(s); if possible, indicate the academic years in which they have been or are intended to be employed:

Tools used to directly assess student learning:	Undergraduate Program	Graduate Program
National Exams		
Local Exams		
Capstone Courses	Spring 98-present	Qualifier exam for Ph.D. (since 1990)
Embedded Testing		
Student Portfolios		MS: annual review by coordinator; Ph.D. annual review by Ph.D. committee
Theses, Dissertations		MS & Ph.D.
Performance Evaluations		
Pre & Post Testing		
Tools used to indirectly assess student learning:	Undergraduate Program	Graduate Program
Student Surveys	Spring 96	
Exit Interviews	Spring 96	Voluntary for students - done by student coordinator
Alumni Surveys		
Employer Surveys		
External Reviews		

Q5. Of the tools used to directly assess student learning, which provide the most useful information?
Undergrad: Capstone course. Grad: Qualifier exam.

Q6. Of the tools used to directly assess student learning, which provide the least useful information?
MS: annual program review

Q7. Of the tools used to indirectly assess student learning, which provide the most useful information?
Undergrad: reports from employers provide a wealth of information. Grad: exit interviews (sporadic).

Q8. Of the tools used to indirectly assess student learning, which provide the least useful information?
Undergrad: external reviews (none conducted in recent past).

Q9. Please elaborate on any of the responses given above (please attach additional pages as needed).
No all encompassing assessment plan in place for either undergrad or grad program. Assessment is undertaken in an ad hoc fashion using the tools above and as specific questions/issues arise. We are a small department, graduating 90 undergrad and 15 grad. students per year. Each student is typically known to several faculty members, so there is a lot of informal assessment.

II. Assessment Processes

Q10. Responsibility for assessment has been assumed by Associate chairs for Undergrad. and Grad. programs, and the administrative academic coordinator, an individual a committee
If responsibility is delegated to an individual, this person is:

the chair / tenured faculty / untenured faculty / academic staff / short term staff / other: _____

If responsibility is delegated to a committee, this group is:

Specially constituted to address assessment of student learning Y N

Part of the Curriculum Committee Y N

Part of the Executive Committee Y N

Part of the Undergraduate/Graduate Education Committee Y N

Other: Undergrad: a revolving group involved in Capstone Semina
Grad: Ph. D. committee

Q11. The department has requested funds from the University Assessment Council (UAC) to help the department assess student learning. Y N

If "yes", did the UAC award the department funds? Y N

Were those funds useful? Y N

Q12. The department has sought professional assistance to conduct assessment. Y N

If "yes", from whom has the department has sought professional assistance? (For example, the LEAD Center, the Office of Quality Improvement, the UW Survey Center, etc.)

III. Additional Information

1. Please attach a brief description of any changes in curriculum, advising, or procedures that were the result of your assessment findings so we may include this information in our annual report to the Provost. If your department has received funds from the University Assessment Council, you may attach the assessment report submitted to the UAC in compliance with its funding support requirements.

2. In the interest of streamlining our requests for assessment information, please identify an assessment contact person: Undergrad: Assoc. Prof. Jon Martin
Grad: Assoc. Prof. Grant Petty

3. Do you have any suggestions for workshops or learning opportunities in the area of student outcomes assessment?

Thank you for taking time to complete this report.

Please return this report by May 25, 2002.