

School of Arts & Sciences Program Learning Outcomes

From: AY12 Assessment Plan

Department: Natural Sciences

Program Group: Geography

Degree: B.S. Geography

1. Competency in Communication
 - a) College graduates should be able to write, speak, read, and listen effectively for a variety of purposes and audiences. Whether their aim is personal, academic, or professional, they should be able to communicate ideas and information effectively.
2. Competency in Quantitative Skills
 - a) A quantitatively literate person is capable of analytical and mathematical reasoning. This individual can read and understand quantitative arguments, follow logical development and mathematical methods, solve mathematical and quantitative problems, perform mathematical calculations, express functional relationships, and apply mathematical methods. As a minimum, a student should know the mathematical techniques covered in the general education mathematical requirements.
3. Competency in Information Literacy
 - a) Competency in information literacy combines the skills of being able to:
 - i. identify needed information;
 - ii. locate and access the information;
 - iii. analyze and evaluate the content;
 - iv. integrate and communicate the information; and
 - v. evaluate the product and the process
4. Competency in Computer Usage
 - a) Students should have the knowledge to make efficient use of computers and information technology in their personal and professional lives because basic technological knowledge and skills apply to all fields and disciplines. Necessary skills range from a basic ability to use a keyboard through word processing concepts, spreadsheet and graphics applications to telecommunications, conferencing, and electronic mail technologies.
5. Competency in Professional Behavior
 - a) Professional behavior is expected of college students. Success in professional life depends on many behaviors, including responsibility, good work habits, ethical decision-making, recognition of the value of community service, and successful human relations.
6. Competency in Critical Thinking
 - a) Competency in critical thinking reflects proficiency in modes of thought such as conceptualizing, analyzing, synthesizing, evaluating, interpreting, and/or applying ideas and information. A critical thinker can approach a concept from multiple perspectives and frames of reference, compare and contrast ideas or models, and demonstrate a willingness to take intellectual risks. A critical thinker knows not only how but also when to apply particular modes of thinking. It should be noted that problem solving and analytical approaches may vary from discipline to discipline.