

Course Outcomes Guide

Directions: Please complete this form to document your progress toward improving student learning. For each item, indicate your progress and your anticipated next steps. Thank you!

Course/Program Title: GEO-105 World Regional Geography

Date: Spring 2014

Course/Program Team: Zana Moran

Expected Learning Outcomes:

- I. Critically analyze current and historical cultural concepts effecting different regions of the world and the inter-relationships between these regions.
- II. Assess current socio-economic, cultural and political issues resulting from the interactive and opposing forces of homogenization and diversification.
- III. Examine geographic factors that have influenced the student's life on a global, national and local level.

GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES:

The student will be able to:

- Analyze how varying conditions of the physical and/or cultural environment contribute to human diversity.
- Reflect on their developing self-awareness of diverse populations and viewpoints as well as how it impacts the way they interact with a changing world.

Assessment (How do or will students demonstrate achievement of each outcome?)

Assessments include two assignments: a Contemporary Issue Assignment that incorporates Google Earth imagery and a Diversity Assignment. Map quizzes and course examinations are also used to assess student mastery of the outcomes.

Validation (What methods have you used or will you use to validate your assessment?)

The Contemporary Issue Assignment and Diversity Assignment are assessed using rubrics which have been shared with and reviewed by other Behavior and Social Science faculty as well as the seven member General Education Diversity team. Similarly, most of the open and closed-ended examination questions have been peer-reviewed and revised to facilitate the development of geographic perspectives and related problem-solving skills.

Results (What do your assessment data show? If you have not yet assessed student achievement of your learning outcomes, when is assessment planned?)

Beginning in the 2013-2014 academic year, World Regional Geography became a General Education course under the Diversity category rather than the Behavioral and Social Sciences category. As a result of this conversion, new Diversity Outcomes were developed, some assessments have been modified and new assessments have been piloted. 76% of students scored at or above 75% on the Contemporary Issues Assignment that assesses mastery of the second course outcome. (N = 97). On the Diversity Assessment, 88% of students demonstrated mastery of Outcome 1 and Outcome 3 by scoring above 75%. (N=94).

Follow-up (How have you used or how will you use the data to improve student learning?)

Curriculum review and revision has occurred to ensure the proper alignment of the course content and assessments with the new Diversity Outcomes as well as the Course Outcomes. Based on results from the Fall 2013 and Spring 2013 semesters, minor revisions will be made to the assignment prompts and rubrics to ensure clarity and emphasize key objectives.

Budget Justification (What resources are necessary to improve student learning?)

Not applicable.