



REPORT ON AY2022-2023 ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT

Submission date: 11/10/2023

Assessment Plan covered in the report: Applied Geological Sciences MS

College: College of Arts and Sciences

Campuses where the program(s) is delivered: Anchorage KOD KPC MSC PWSC

Submitted by: Eric Klein, Assistant Professor, Department of Geological Sciences, eklein@alaska.edu

2. Describe your assessment process for the Program Student Learning Outcomes, including the collection of data, analysis of data, and (if applicable, e.g., advisory board) conversations around the findings (1000 words or less)

Assessment of performance in these five categories is accomplished through assessment

measures:

1) Direct Course Level Assessment (CLA)

FALL 2022

GEOL A641 Paleoclimatology

GEOL A67 Depositional Systems

SPRING 2023

GEOL 636 Petroleum Geology

2) Exit surveys

Some graduate students expressed interest in opportunities for geoscience graduate studies beyond a MS (e.g., PhD) at UAA.

3) Thesis defenses or comprehensive examinations

Four completed thesis defenses.

3. What are the findings and what do they tell the faculty about student learning in your program? (1000 words or less)

The SLOs and outcomes (letter grades) for 2022-2023 could be assessed are as follows:

a. Demonstrate critical thinking skills through synthesis of geologic information:

b. Critically evaluate their own and others work for accuracy, fairness, clarity and scientific style:

c. Produce professional quality reports using their own and other's data:

These results are similar to AY 2022

4. Based on the findings, did the faculty make any recommendations for changes to improve student achievement of the Program Student Learning Outcomes? No

i. Please describe the recommended action(s) and what improvement in student learning the program hopes to see by the proposed timeline, and how the program will know if the change(s) has worked. If no recommendations for changes were made, please explain that decision. (1000 words or less)

The faculty haven't made any explicit recommendations for changes in the past couple of years some grad students requested more standalone grad courses. The faculty understand the issue, but current faculty shortages in our department (e.g., geophysics

structural geology prevent us from adding more state and online grad courses. Our MS program is represented at various national conferences (e.g., Geological Society of America) and we have successfully recruited MS students from across the country, many with competing offers. We also continue to work with our Community Advisory Board to keep providing internship opportunities for grad students (US\$ADNR, NANA) which helps student success.

5. In the past academic year, did your program use the results of previous assessment cycles to make changes intended to improve student achievement of the Program Student Learning Outcomes? Please check all that apply.

- Course curriculum changes
- Course prerequisite changes
- Changes in teaching methods
- Changes in advising
- Degree requirement changes
- Degree course sequencing
- Course enrollment changes, (e.g. course capacity, grading structure [pass/fail, A
- Changes in program policies/procedures
- Changes in advising

Jenny McNulty