

ASSESSMENT PLAN SUMMARY– B.A & B.S. in Geography and B.S. (Comprehensive) in Geospatial Sciences – Missouri State University

<p>PUBLIC AFFAIRS LEARNING OUTCOMES <i>List the program learning outcomes in the first column and then complete the table cells with the information relevant to each learning outcome listed. Attach additional documentation as necessary.</i></p>	<p>DIRECT ASSESSMENT MEASURES</p>	<p>INDIRECT ASSESSMENT MEASURES</p>
<p>1. Acquire an understanding of and appreciation for the relationship between geography and culture.</p>	<p>1. Various questions on Exit Exam for Geography/Geospatial Sciences Majors pertaining on the interrelationship of geography/geospatial sciences to human culture. 2. Journal for field-based class in GRY 301, 353, 470.</p>	<p>Student performance in required 300-level cultural and/or regional geography course (GRY 300, 305, 320, 321, 322, 323)</p>
<p>2. Acquire an understanding of and appreciation for the role that geography can play in community engagement.</p>	<p>Various questions on Exit Exam for Geography/Geospatial Sciences Majors pertaining on geography/geospatial sciences role in public engagements</p>	<p>Student performance in required Public Affairs Intensive Experience course (GRY 315, 399, 470, 510, 599, or PLN 572).</p>
<p>3. Develop the ethical aptitudes and dispositions necessary to acquire and hold leadership positions in industry, government, and professional organizations.</p>	<p>Respondents of Geography/Geospatial Sciences alumni survey with leadership positions in industry, government, and professional organizations.</p>	<p>Student performance in required Public Affairs Intensive Experience course (GRY 315, 399, 470, 510, 599, or PLN 572).</p>
<p>DISCIPLINARY LEARNING OUTCOMES COMMON TO ALL GEOGRAPHY AND GEOSPATIAL SCIENCES MAJORS</p>		
<p>1. Read, interpret, and generate maps and other geographic representations as well as extract, analyze, and present information from a spatial perspective.</p>	<p>Questions #1-20, 25, 26, 27, 28, 31, 32, 35, 36, 37, 62, 63, 66, 69 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to maps and geographic representations.</p>	<p>Student performance in GRY 142, 363, and 367</p>
<p>2. Understand through lectures but also local, regional, and/or international travel the interconnection between people and places and have a general comprehension of how variations in culture and personal experiences may affect our perception and management of places and regions.</p>	<p>Questions #34, 43, 45 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to the interconnection between people and places.</p>	<p>Student performance in GRY 100; successful completion of required field-studies course (GRY 301 or 353 or 470)</p>
<p>3. Have a general understanding of physical geographic processes, the global distribution of landforms and ecosystems, and the role of the physical environment on human populations.</p>	<p>Questions #39, 40, 41, 42, 44 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to the physical geography.</p>	<p>Student performance in GRY 100 and 142; successful completion of required field-studies course (GRY 301 or 353 or 470)</p>

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4. Have a general understanding of cultural geographic processes, the global distribution of cultural mosaics, and the history and types of interaction between people within and among these mosaics.	Questions #21, 24, 29, 34, 43 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to cultural geographic processes.	Student performance in GRY 100; successful completion of required field-studies course (GRY 301 or 353 or 470)
5. Have a general understanding of global human population patterns, factors influencing the distribution and mobilities of human populations including settlement and economic activities and networks, and human impacts on the physical environment.	Questions #21, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, 33, 38, 43 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to global human population patterns.	Student performance in GRY 100; successful completion of required field-studies course (GRY 301 or 353 or 470)
6. Be able to think in spatial terms to explain what has occurred in the past as well as using geographic principles to understand the present and plan for the future.	<i>No questions on the current version of the departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining directly to this SLO. This will need to be rectified in the next version of the exam.</i>	Student performance in GRY 100 and 142.
7. Have a general understanding of how the physical environment, human societies, and local and global economic systems are integral to the principles of sustainable development.	Questions #45 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to the principles of sustainable development.	Student performance in GRY 100; successful completion of required field-studies course (GRY 301 or 353 or 470)
8. Have a general understanding of the various theoretical and methodological approaches in both physical and human geography and be able to develop research questions and critically analyze both qualitative and quantitative data to answer those questions.	Questions #46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 68, 72, 73 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to quantitative and qualitative methods in geography.	Student performance in GRY 100, 142, 363, and 367; successful completion of required field-studies course (GRY 301 or 353 or 470)
9. Be able to present completed research, including an explanation of methodology and scholarly discussion, both orally and in written form and, wherever possible, utilize cartographic tools and other visual formats.	Questions #46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 64, 65, 67, 70, 71 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to research methodology and the presentation of research.	Student performance in GRY 363 and 367; successful completion of required field-studies course (GRY 301 or 353 or 470)
ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINARY LEARNING OUTCOMES SPECIFIC TO THE B.A. IN GEOGRAPHY		
1. Develop a solid understanding of the concepts of “space”, “place”, and “region” and their importance in explaining world affairs.	Questions #74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 82, 87, 92, 94, 95 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to the interconnections of geography to world affairs.	Student performance in GRY 100; student performance in GRY 300 or 305; student performance in additional 12 hours of courses with GRY, GEO, or PLN prefix
2. Understand general demographic principles and their patterns at regional and global scales.	Questions #80, 81, 88, 89, 90, 92, 119 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to population and its spatial distribution.	Student performance in GRY 100; student performance in GRY 300 or 305; student performance in

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		additional 12 hours of courses with GRY, GEO, or PLN prefix
3. Be able to locate on a map major physical features, cultural regions, and individual states and urban centers.	Questions #80, 84, 86, 96, 97, 99 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to the location of places.	Student performance in GRY 100; student performance in GRY 300 or 305; student performance in additional 12 hours of courses with GRY, GEO, or PLN prefix
4. Understand global and regional patterns of cultural, political and economic institutions, and their effects on the preservation, use and exploitation of natural resources and landscapes.	Questions #91, 93, 111, 112, 113, 114 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to the forces behind the management of natural resources.	Student performance in GRY 100; student performance in GRY 300 or 305; student performance in additional 12 hours of courses with GRY, GEO, or PLN prefix
ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINARY LEARNING OUTCOMES SPECIFIC TO THE B.S. IN GEOGRAPHY WITH EMPHASIS IN CULTURAL & REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY		
1. Develop a solid understanding of the concepts of “space”, “place”, and “region” and their importance in explaining world affairs.	Questions #74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 82, 87, 92, 94, 95 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to the interconnections of geography to world affairs.	Student performance in GRY 100; student performance in GRY 300 or 305; student performance in GRY 320 or 321 or 322 or 323; student performance in additional 12 hours of courses with GRY, GEO, or PLN prefix
2. Understand general demographic principles and their patterns at regional and global scales.	Questions #80, 81, 88, 89, 90, 92, 119 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to population and its spatial distribution.	Student performance in GRY 100; student performance in GRY 300 or 305; student performance in GRY 320 or 321 or 322 or 323; student performance in additional 12 hours of courses with GRY, GEO, or PLN prefix
3. Be able to locate on a map major physical features, cultural regions, and individual states and urban centers.	Questions #80, 84, 86, 96, 97, 99, on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to the location of places.	Student performance in GRY 100; student performance in GRY 300 or 305; student performance in GRY 320 or 321 or 322 or 323; student performance in additional 12 hours of courses with GRY, GEO, or PLN prefix

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<p>4. Understand global and regional patterns of cultural, political and economic institutions, and their effects on the preservation, use and exploitation of natural resources and landscapes.</p>	<p>Questions #91, 93, 111, 112, 113, 114 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to the forces behind the management of natural resources.</p>	<p>Student performance in GRY 100; student performance in GRY 300 or 305; student performance in GRY 320 or 321 or 322 or 323; student performance in additional 12 hours of courses with GRY, GEO, or PLN prefix</p>
<p>ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINARY LEARNING OUTCOMES SPECIFIC TO THE B.S. IN GEOGRAPHY WITH EMPHASIS IN ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCES</p>		
<p>1. Understand the key concepts in physical geography of environmental systems, process linkages, variable scale, and “cause and effect” and how they relate to the influence of climate, geology, and human activities in shaping the earth surface.</p>	<p>Questions #122, 123, 124, 126, 141, 144, 145, 146, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 169, 170, 174, 176, 177, 178 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to Environmental and Natural Resources.</p>	
<p>2. Be able to use accepted field, laboratory, geospatial, and statistical techniques to quantify the quantity, characteristics, and history of physical phenomena for geographic research and natural resources management.</p>	<p>Questions #147, 148, 149, 164, 168, 170, 171, 172, 173, 175 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to Environmental and Natural Resources.</p>	
<p>3. Be able to use the scientific method including critical thinking, sampling, hypothesis formulation and testing, and controlled experimentation to assess environmental problems, and be able to effectively communicate research objectives, methodology, results, interpretations, and conclusions in oral and written formats.</p>	<p>Questions #150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 168, 171, 173, 175 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to Environmental and Natural Resources.</p>	
<p>4. Be able to synthesize geographic knowledge and apply innovative research strategies to solve problems in resource conservation, environmental change, and sustainable development within the community, region, and world.</p>	<p>Questions #158-162 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to Environmental and Natural Resources.</p>	
<p>ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINARY LEARNING OUTCOMES SPECIFIC TO THE B.S. IN GEOGRAPHY WITH EMPHASIS IN GEOTOURISM</p>		

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1. Be able to demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental principles, concepts and knowledge of Geotourism from the perspective of the National Geographic Society's guidelines.	Questions #182, 186, 187, 189, 190, 193, 197, 198, 201, 205, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 220, 221, 222 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to the principles of Geotourism.	Student performance in GRY 310 and 328.
2. Be able to identify the principles, practices, and philosophies, which affect the economic, social, cultural, psychological, and marketing aspects of human travel and the tourism industry.	Questions #179, 184, 187, 188, 189, 191, 203, 204, 218, 219, 220, 221, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to the theory and application of	Student performance in GRY 310 and 328.
3. Be able to articulate the key concepts and methods used to investigate and make sense of the role, significance and impact of tourism that sustains or enhances the geographical character of a place—its environment, culture, aesthetics, heritage, and the well-being of its residents.	Questions #181, 185, 190, 192, 197, 207, 224, 225 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to tourism's effects in destination areas.	Student performance in GRY 310 and 328.
4. Be able to demonstrate an understanding of the asset theory, cost-benefit analysis, tax policy impacts, and other economic and statistical aspects of tourism, approached from the elements in the Geotourism perspective.	Questions #180, 190, 194 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to tools available for measuring tourism's economic effects.	Student performance in GRY 410 and HRA 340.
5. Be able to examine research designed to determine economic impacts of the Geotourism industry.	Questions #185, 191, 194, 195, 196, 202, 206 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to research in the economics of Geotourism.	Student performance in GRY 410 and HRA 340.
6. Be able to evaluate the conflicting agenda of society's various stakeholders and the need to reconcile environmental, economic and sociocultural concerns.	Questions #198, 199, 200, 205, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 220, 221, 222 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to sustainable development in the context of tourism.	Student performance in GRY 410 and HRA 340.
7. Be able to critically examine community Geotourism issues and develop coherent solutions.	Questions #181, 183, 186, 192, 194, 204 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to the management of Geotourism at the community level.	Student performance in GRY 510.
8. Be able to demonstrate effective written, oral and visual communication skills to present these solutions.	Questions #187, 191, 194, 210, 211, 212, 213, 216 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to presentation techniques in geotourism.	Student performance in GRY 510.
9. Be able to apply the principles of Geotourism to a local, regional or national community to develop a tourism policy and plan based on Geotourism parameters.	Questions #189, 191, 199, 200, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 222, 229 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to the policy implications relating to the development of geotourism	Student performance in GRY 510.

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ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINARY LEARNING OUTCOMES SPECIFIC TO THE B.S. IN GEOSPATIAL SCIENCE		
1. Students will acquire knowledge of the foundations and theories of digital cartography, geographic information systems (GIS), and remote sensing	Questions #228, 229, 230, 231, 232 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to the fundamentals of geospatial sciences.	Student performance in GRY 360, 363; GEO 551, 561, 562, 568, 572, 578.
2. Students will acquire skills of applying spatial data analysis, feature extraction, and thematic mapping techniques to analyze biophysical or socioeconomic geographic information	Questions #228, 231, 232, 234 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to the applications of geospatial technologies.	Student performance in GRY 360, 363; GEO 551, 561, 562, 566, 568, 572, 573, 578.
3. Students will acquire the ability of working individually and as a team to develop and present a client-driven geospatial solution	Questions #229, 230, 233, 235 on departmentally generated major assessment exam pertaining to strategies for developing practical solutions.	Student performance in GRY 360, 363; GEO 551, 561, 562, 566, 568, 572, 573, 578.