

General Education Annual Course Assessment Form

Course Number/Title _001 General Geology____ GE Area __ B1 & B3_____

Results reported for AY _2013-14_____ # of sections: 4 lect, 9 lab_____ # of instructors _2_____

Course Coordinator: _Robert Miller_____ E-mail: _robert.b.miller@sjsu.edu_____

Department Chair: __R.B. Miller_____ College: _Science_____

Instructions: Each year, the department will prepare a brief (two page maximum) report that documents the assessment of the course during the year. This report will be **electronically submitted**, by the department chair, to the Office of Undergraduate Studies, with an electronic copy to the home college by September 1 of the following academic year.

Part 1

To be completed by the course coordinator:

(1) What SLO(s) were assessed for the course during the AY?

SLO 2: Students should be able to demonstrate ways in which science influences and is influenced by complex societies, including political and moral issues.

(2) What were the results of the assessment of this course? What were the lessons learned from the assessment?

The student learning objective was achieved through lectures and in-class discussions, as well as homework assignments and exam questions. Students examined the interaction between the earth and people and evaluated the ways in which a scientific understanding of the earth could influence societies. In studying earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, stream and coastal erosion, and climate change, students also examined the interaction between these geologic processes and societies to better understand how disasters can be avoided, at least in the sense of the loss of life and property. On exams that included questions about natural hazards and humans, 72% of students demonstrated proficiency in such topics.

Students also completed an assignment in which they watched an hour-long video that discussed water issues in California, and how the acquisition of water allowed for the development of Los Angeles and surrounding areas. Students then wrote a short response to the video in which they evaluated the positive and negative aspects of water acquisition on local and distant communities. They also formed and articulated opinions about the social responsibility associated with diverting water to areas that have very little precipitation. 85% of students demonstrated an understanding of such complex issues, as well as the ability to evaluate the moral and societal implications associated with these issues.

(3) What modifications to the course, or its assessment activities or schedule, are planned for the upcoming year? (If no modifications are planned, the course coordinator should indicate this.)

We will continue to utilize these assessment instruments. Students will also write an essay, choosing from a variety of topics, some of which will focus on geologic hazards and how they affect humans.

Part 2

To be completed by the department chair (with input from course coordinator as appropriate):

- (4) Are all sections of the course still aligned with the area Goals, Student Learning Objectives (SLOs), Content, Support, and Assessment? If they are not, what actions are planned?

All sections are still aligned with Area B1 and B3 goals and student learning objectives. No action is planned.