

Course Assessment– Part B: Your Results & Analysis

#61

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GS 106 Physical Science (Geology) – Gebhardt

Results

1a. Report the outcome achievement data gathered via the assignments, test, etc. you identified in question 3 of your Part A. *

Percentages based on a class size of 21 students unless otherwise noted.

Outcome 1: Hazards (presentation & Required Essay)

Presentations = 100% of students earned over 70% and 71% earned over an 80%. We had a snow day on presentation day, so students did write ups instead of presenting, may have impacted overall grade.

Essay (2 students did not attempt – percentages out of 19 students) 74% of the class earned at least a 70% on the essay, 53% earned over an 80% and 26% earned in the 60's.

Outcome 2: rock cycle (Choice final essay)

I had 7 students choose this essay, 71% earned at least a 70% or higher (all 71% earned over a 90% on the essay)

Outcome 3: Field Trip(s)

We completed 3 total trips, students were required to complete 2 out of three. Those that could not attend completed the trips virtually from photos taken on the trip.

100% of the students earned an 80% or higher on these trips – (one student earned lower, but due to not completing assignment to entirety)

1b. Report the percentage of students who mastered each outcome that you identified in question 3 of your Part A.

Use scientifically valid modes of inquiry, individually and collaboratively, to critically evaluate the hazards and risks posed by geologic processes both to themselves and society as a whole, evaluate the efficacy of possible ethically robust responses to these risks, and effectively communicate the results of this analysis to their peers.

Outcome #1 *

% of students who successfully achieved the outcome: *

100

Outcome #2 *

Use an understanding of the rock cycle, plate tectonics and surface processes to explain how the Earth's surface wears away and is renewed.

% of students who successfully achieved the outcome: *

71

Outcome #3 *

Make field based observations and measurements of earth materials and landscapes, use scientific reasoning to interpret these observations and measurements, and compare the results with current models of geologic processes identifying areas of congruence and discrepancy.

% of students who successfully achieved the outcome: * 100

Reflect on you assessment results and provide analysis, considering what contributes to student success and/or lack of success. Include feedback from student course evaluations as appropriate. *

Overall I reached my goals of at least 70% of students earning at least a 70% on assignments related to each outcome chosen. In some cases a higher percent of students reached the 70% grade, and often earned over 80%.

I see lower grades for the students on the final exam essay assessments – this may be due to the added stress of the assignment being a final exam worth more points.

Based on student evaluations, student understanding of the material has increased from start to finish of the course. Many students commented on how beneficial the field trips were to understanding the material along with getting them interested in the geology surrounding them.

Based on your analysis in the questions above, what course adjustments are warranted (curricular, pedagogical, etc.)? *

I would like to improve my discussion activities in an attempt to spur more conversation online. Although beneficial to most students, some students commented on how they got more out of our discussion in class and very little from the online discussion.

I would also like to make field trips more accessible to all students in my classes. The trouble is work schedules, other classes and transportation.

I also may make a few homework assignments at the end of the course that can address these outcomes more directly.

What resources would be required to implement your recommended course adjustments (materials, training, equipment, etc.)? What Budget implications result? *

Possible transportation funding for trips.

Were your assessment methods accurate indicators of student learning? Why or why not? Any additional comments?

I think my methods were accurate indicators, although the snow day for presentations may have threw the data off a bit. Not sure how well the field trip grades indicate student learning. We discuss the answers as a group on the trips. I would like to add a ‘field test’ for students to see what they can identify and observe on their own in the field.

(OPTIONAL) Reflect on any adjustments you made from the last assessment of this course and their effectiveness in student achievement of outcomes?

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