Program: Biology

Intended Outcome: Effectively communicate biological information in writing

Means of Assessment: Collection of assessment data from courses that address this specific program learning outcome through papers and projects. Successful defense of Honors theses.

Type of Assessment: Course-embedded measure

Criteria for Success: At least 85% of students should have a minimum grade of C on exercises that require them to communicate in writing.

Results or Progress: Still in the process of accumulating data from course offerings. Eleven majors (100% of the Biology Honors cohort) successfully defended Honors theses.

Use of Results for Improvement: Establish a committee of Biology faculty to unify our efforts in teaching and assessing writing across the Biology curriculum.

Program: Biology

Intended Outcome: Effectively communicate biological information orally

Means of Assessment: Collection of assessment data from courses that address this specific program learning outcome through oral presentations. Oral defense of Honors theses.

Type of Assessment: Course-embedded measure

Criteria for Success: At least 85% of students should have a minimum grade of C on exercises that require them to communicate orally about biology. Successful oral defense of Honors theses.

Results or Progress: Data from some courses are still being analyzed. In BIOL 446 and BIOL 453, 100% of students achieved a grade of C or better on oral presentations.

Use of Results for Improvement: Revise, unify and promulgate instructional and assessment approaches to oral proficiency in scientific communication.