

Decennial Assessment Plan for Biology

Please provide your year-by-year proposed schedule of ILO assessment:

Assessment Plan for Biology

Timeline: Recent History

2019-20	Program Review , Spring 2019
2020-21	Assessment Planning Year Discussion of revisions to Program Intended Learning Outcomes

Timeline: Plan

2021-22	Action Year Finish and formalize New Program Intended Learning Outcomes
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2022-23	Assessment activity 1 Question: Is the Biology major meeting our goals for effective delivery of content?
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Relevant Intended Learning Outcome: TBD (ILOs are under revision)

Assessment Activity: Evaluation of performance on national exam

Summary of Plan: We have identified two standardized exams that may be useful here, the major field test in biology (previously used by the department in 2009 and 2013) and Bio-MAPS. Senior biology majors will be asked to participate.

Anticipated Action: We anticipate revising content of core courses in response to the exam scores.

2023-24	Reporting Year The report will summarize findings from the previous year's assessment.
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2024-25	Assessment Activity 2
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Question: Is the Biology major providing an antiracist curriculum and context in which all students can position themselves?

Relevant Intended Learning Outcome: TBD (ILOs are under revision)

Summary of Plan: We think this is a good place for indirect assessment of our majors via surveys and focus groups. There are already many ways that individual faculty and courses are implementing antiracist content and/or antiracist pedagogies, and one goal is to provide more such opportunities. Indirect assessment of students will help us understand where this is working (we would plan to do this in a way that did not single out individual faculty since the assessment is about student learning and not about how each faculty person supports that learning).

Anticipated Action: We anticipate revising content of courses in response to the survey results.

2025-26

Reporting Year

The report will summarize findings from the previous year's assessment.

2026-27

Assessment Activity 3

Question: Is the Biology major equipping students with quantitative skills?

Relevant Intended Learning Outcome: TBD (ILOs are under revision)

Summary of Plan: We think this could be a good place for direct assessment of students artifacts from one or more of the courses involved in our scaffold of quantitative skills. We could collect, anonymize, and sample from lab reports and design and use a rubric to assess the depth of one or more quantitative skills demonstrated.

Anticipated Action: We anticipate revising content of core courses, and scaffolding of skills across those courses, in response to the direct assessment findings.

2027-28

Reporting Year

The report will summarize findings from the previous year's assessment. It will also include a plan for gathering additional data for the upcoming self-study.

2028-29

Prepare Self-study

2029-30

Program Review