

Anthropology and Earth Science Department
Comments from Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Committee

1. Your department has a good track record of assessment over the recent few years. Thanks for your attention to this.
2. Your department has made a series of changes designed to improve student learning. This is the ultimate goal of assessment and you appear to be taking this discussion seriously.
3. A question: What is the level of performance you expect from students on your assessment measures? Why?
4. Issues related to validity and reliability of your assessment measures:
 - What are you measuring? Should measure multiple things in multiple ways. It appears that Anthropology assesses one project, Geosciences a loosely related set of artifacts. More focused assessment might lead to more useful results. You mention that retention of information is important, but don't have a clear way to measure this.
 - What instrument are you using to assess? Who is using the instrument? How do you know people are using the instrument in the same way? A nine point scale leaves a lot of room for subjective judgment.
5. How can you more closely link your program changes/needs to your assessment data? What do your scores mean? Can you more provide more precise data to support your requests and action items?
6. How do you know that previous changes have worked? Have they worked?
7. Please fill out the new forms to ensure consistency and completeness.