

Major Field Assessment Plan B.S. Science Education (Biology)

November 2006

The mission of Southeastern Louisiana University is to lead the educational, economic and cultural development of southeastern Louisiana.

The purpose of the Bachelor of Science program in Biology Education is:

Goal I

Biology education majors at Southeastern Louisiana University will acquire fundamental and advanced concepts, principles and applications of historical and contemporary biological content knowledge.

A.. *Expected Outcome*

Graduating seniors will compare favorably with similar students nationwide in their knowledge of biological principles.

Assessment

- a. All biology majors, upon taking biology seminar (GBio 441), will be given a locally developed multiple choice exam, and at least 50% will score a passing grade.
- b. On the Department Exit Survey, at least 80% of the graduating students will indicate that they received at least an adequate preparation in each area of biology assessed by the questionnaire.
- c. Biology Education students will compare favorably with students from other universities in their performance on the PRAXIS examination.

Goal II

Students who wish to continue their education will be adequately prepared to pursue a graduate degree in a pedagogy or biological field.

A. *Expected Outcome*

Biology Education majors will apply to and be accepted by high quality graduate programs granting advanced degrees in education or biological sciences.

Assessment

- a. At least 70% of the graduating seniors will indicate on the SLU Exit Survey that they feel adequately or well-prepared to seek further education.
- b. Students who indicate on the Undergraduate Alumni Survey that they are seeking a graduate degree in a biological science, will indicate that they are "satisfied" or "well-satisfied" with their instruction in the major and when they compare themselves with alumni from other institutions, they believe their preparation at SLU was "better" or "about equal".
- c. We will track the careers of Biology Education graduates to see if they pursue graduate degrees.

Goal III

Biology education majors at Southeastern Louisiana University will acquire process skills that are necessary to design, supervise, and conduct biological

research in a meaningful and safe manner.

A. Expected Outcome

Senior students will have good written and oral communicative skills. These include being able to conduct a literature search, read and interpret scientific literature, include charts graphs, and tables; and write a grammatically correct, scientific report. In addition, these students will be able to develop and conduct an oral presentation on a biological topic.

Assessment

a. Seminar students will present a well organized scientific seminar as part of Biology 441.

Goal IV

Biology Education majors will have an opportunity to work with members of the faculty.

A. Expected Outcome

Graduating seniors in Biology Education will have an opportunity to participate in research, field trips, and educational projects with specific faculty members.

Assessment

- a. On the SLU Exit Survey, 90% of graduating seniors will indicate that they are satisfied with the friendliness and helpfulness of faculty.
- b. On the SLU Exit Survey, 90% of students will indicate that they are satisfied with the opportunities to interact with faculty outside the class.

Goal V

Biology education majors at Southeastern Louisiana University will develop the skills to teach biology.

A. Expected Outcome

Biology Education majors will be provided with the skills and knowledge needed to teach.

Assessment

- a. At least 90% of graduates will score at least a 4.0 on the appropriate indicators of the Student Teacher Evaluation Form.

Goal VI

Biology Education majors will have an opportunity foster global and cultural perspectives.

A. Expected Outcome

Biology students will have the opportunity to develop an awareness of other cultures and languages.

Assessment

- a. Biology Education students will be provided the opportunity to travel abroad.
- b. Biology education majors will also develop essential global environmental perspectives through select courses.