

## Course and Program Assessment Summary

**Division:** Social Sciences  
5/30/12

**Program:** Geography

**Course(s):** Geo 201, Geo 202

**Date:**

**Program Core/Required Courses:** *Geo 201, Geo 202*

**Program Faculty:** *Geography has no full time or permanent faculty members. CPAS prepared by Jane Morgan, Ph.D.*

1	<b>Student Learning Outcome Statements</b> <b>X Program</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Course</b>	1. Students will identify, explain, and assess the issues of human and physical geography 2. Students will define, explain, and analyze patterns and structures, the interrelationship between people and places and the interaction between the environment and society 3. Students will recognize applications of geography in everyday life 4. Students will apply the tools, analytical concepts and skills of geography to gather, store, interpret and report information about people, places, and environments on the earth's surface.
2	<b>Assessment Methods Plan</b> (attach any assessment instruments, scoring rubrics, SLO mapping diagrams)	The Geography Program has adopted a survey-based assessment for student learning outcomes (SLOs) for all Program and course SLOs that uses an instrument (on file in MyCuesta Group/Geography) that is administered at the end of the course
3	<b>Assessment Administration Plan</b> (date(s), sample size and selection of course sections, scoring procedures, etc.)	Assessments occurred in sections of Geog 201 Introduction to Physical Geography and Geog 202 Introduction to Cultural Geography at the San Luis Obispo campus with 19 and 34 students completing the assessment respectively in the Spring 2012.
4	<b>Assessment Results Summary</b> (attach any Data/Statistical Reports)	Statistical summaries for each section are on file in MyCuesta Group/Geography. The course SLO assessments showed generally acceptable levels of student achievement across all SLOs.

5	<b>Discussion of Assessment Procedure and Results, and Effectiveness of Previous Improvement Plans</b>	The acceptable levels of student achievement across all SLOs indicate that the courses prepare students for advanced coursework in geography, however the lack of any full time permanent Geography faculty negatively impacts students and the program, and this assessment indicates this. Additionally, the Program SLO's assume students have completed both courses offered at Cuesta College, but it is difficult to truly assess the success of the program given the small number of students who take either class, let alone complete both classes.
6	<b>Recommended Changes &amp; Plans for Implementation of Improvements</b>	Faculty should continue to list SLOs on the syllabi and discuss them with their students. Additional consideration of the Program and course SLOs should be made when creating new assignments, exams and other course materials in order to focus student learning on the various SLOs that have been identified for the course and Program.