



Skyline College

Program Review Update

2024-2025

SKY Dept - Geography

Bianca Rowden-Quince

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bianca Rowden-Quince".

Bianca Rowden-Quince (Dec 17, 2024 10:41 PST)

12/17/2024

SKY Instructional Program Review Update

Submitter Name:

Rachel Cunningham

Submitter Date:

12/10/2024

DIVISION:

Social Science and Creative Arts (SS/CA)

PROGRAM NAME:

Geography

YEAR OF REVIEW:

2024-2025

1. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

What notable conclusions were drawn from the assessment results? If available, note any differences in assessment results by key disaggregations (e.g. modality, learning communities, etc.). What have been the implications for the program? Specific questions to answer in your response:

i. What percentage of course SLOs have been assessed in the last three years?

Number of Course SLOs:

3

Percentage:

13.6

ii. Which course(s) were assessed in the last three years?

GEOG 300: Geographic Information Science

iii. Degree-bearing programs are expected to assess Institutional SLOs, ideally during each ISLO's featured year. List which course(s) were assessed for which ISLOs in the last three years.

GEOG 300 for Effective Communication (Fall 2022)

iv. Drawing from course and institutional SLOs results, what notable conclusions were drawn? Which results led to action(s) that were planned or taken, if any, to enhance student learning in those courses?

For the Effective Communication ISLO, it was determined that this ISLO was not met. In Fall 2022, 57% of the students assessed scored a 70% or higher on the Effective Communication portion of the Final Poster rubric. It should be noted that for Spring 2023, this ISLO was met (60% of students assessed scored a 70% or higher), however this was not the designated assessment for that semester. Seeing how close the gap was for Fall 2022, and the actual success of Spring 2023, we have determined that we are actually close to meeting this ISLO. Moving forward, the department can continue to evaluate this ISLO through GEOG 300 and see if rates continue to improve. If rates do not continue to improve, instructors should consider increasing instruction around visual communication in the final poster assignment. Because this ISLO is part of the Canvas ISLO pilot, it is easy for us to continue collecting this data each semester without additional steps needed from instructors.

All three of the SLOs that were assessed for GEOG 300 were met. The remaining two SLOs for GEOG 300 are still being analyzed. This shows us that, of students who actually engage with the class, there is a high success rate. It was observed, however, that a considerable amount of the class (20-30%) did not submit assessments and were not engaging with the course material. It remains to be seen whether this is exclusive to GEOG 300, if it is widespread throughout the Geography Department's online courses, or if it is a college-wide issue.

Now that our full-time faculty is done with her large non-teaching commitments (FTEFAC committee, tenure

SKY Dept - Geography

review), we are planning on focusing on our remaining department SLOs and PSLOs and have their analysis completed during the Spring 2025 semester.

2. CURRICULUM

Please indicate whether the following tasks have been completed:

Submitted a current assessment calendar with all active courses to the Office of Planning, Research, and Institutional Effectiveness

Yes

Updated the Improvement Platform with new and/or changed SLOs, after approval by the Curriculum Committee

Yes

Updated the program website with new and/or changed PSLOs after they are published in the College Catalog

Yes

Reviewed, updated (as needed), and submitted degree and certificate maps to the Curriculum Committee

No

3. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please note anything else that has not been captured above that is relevant to program accomplishments, challenges, and resource needs. Explain and document your response as needed.

The Geography Department has been heavily involved in the creation of the new Global Studies AA-T program, along with the creation of two new Global Studies courses: GBST 101 (Introduction to Global Studies) and GBST 102 (Global Issues). The Global Studies degree program and its assessment is currently housed under Geography. These courses are effective Fall 2024 and the AA-T is pending approval as of Fall 2024.

For the 2024-2025 Academic Year, the Geography Department has been a part of two President Innovation Fund (PIF) projects: 1) Critical Global Citizenship Education (CGCE) and 2) Earth Day Every Day. The Geography Department also continues to be heavily involved with the Undergraduate Symposium of Academic Research (uSOAR). For the 2024-2025 Academic Year, a Geography part-time faculty member is serving on the Academic Senate.

Related Documents

[GBST 101 Course Outline.pdf](#);

[GBST 102 Course Outline.pdf](#);

[program_report.cfm.pdf](#)

Goals & Resource Requests

Increased Course Options

Our goal is to have an increased number of transferable geography courses available at Skyline College. This will allow students more flexibility and agency in completing the geography AA-T, as well as offer non-geography majors more options and flexibility for fulfilling GE requirements. As of November 2022, the Geography Department has decided to focus on a new Geography of California course first, followed by some sort of map analysis/geographic thinking course.

Year Initiated

2022 - 2023

Implementation Step(s) and Timelines

Fall 2022: Identification of potential additional courses

Spring 2023: Creation of COR for new course

By End of Spring 2023: Submission of new course to Curriculum Committee

Fall 2024: New course is offered at Skyline College

Mapping

- SKY College Values: (X - Selected)

- **Academic Excellence:** undefined (X)
- **Campus Climate:** undefined (X)
- **Community Partnership:** undefined (X)
- **Open Access:** undefined (X)
- **Social Justice:** undefined (X)
- **Student Success and Equity:** undefined (X)
- **Sustainability:** undefined (X)

- SKY Strategic Goals: (X - Highlight Selected)

- **Antiracist and Equitable Institution:** Be an antiracist and equitable institution (X)
- **Increased Student Enrollment:** Increase student enrollment by being responsive to communities we serve (X)
- **Student Support and Resources:** Ensure that all students have the support and resources needed to achieve their educational goals (X)
- **Thriving Environment:** Foster a thriving learning and work environment (X)

STATUS

Goal Status Date

12/10/2024

Academic Year Updated

2024 - 2025

Goal Status

On Hold

Goal Status Narrative

The Geography Department co-created two new courses, but they are housed in Global Studies. (GBST 101 and GBST 102). Geography Faculty are eligible to teach these courses. The Geography Department will be looking into incorporating these courses into our AA-T, which would then meet the original goal of increasing course offerings. New Geography of California and Map Analysis courses are currently on hold.

Related Documents

[GBST 101 Course Outline.pdf](#);

[GBST 102 Course Outline.pdf](#)

Goals & Resource Requests

Resource Request

Division Name

Social Science and Creative Arts (SS/CA)

Year of Request

2022 - 2023

Resource Type

Student, Aides, Hourly, or Temporary Workers

Resource Name

Hourly pay for adjunct Geography faculty

Resource Description

Geography has only one full-time faculty member, and relies on support from adjunct faculty. Our adjunct faculty have already expressed interest in creating a new course for our department. It is only fair and equitable that all adjunct faculty receive financial compensation for their work. This hourly pay would be for one adjunct faculty member to participate in the creation of one new Geography course: Geography of California

Funds Type – Mark all that apply.

Recurring Cost

Briefly explain how this request helps to advance the goals and priorities of your program, the College, the District, and/or the California Community College Chancellor's Office.

A new geography course advances the program goal of giving students more flexibility and agency in their coursework, as well as providing more opportunities for global learning for all district students.

Cost

1,000

Level of need, with 1 being the most pressing

3

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY

Implement a Zero-Cost Textbook for GEOG 101 (Physical Geography Lab)

Move our most popular lab course, GEOG 101, to ZTC status, in order to support students. Students will not have to spend money on textbooks. They will also be able to complete lab assignments starting from Day 1 of the semester, rather than waiting for textbooks/atlasses to arrive.

Year Initiated

2021 - 2022

Implementation Step(s) and Timelines

Fall 2021: Identification of course for ZTC/OER program

Fall 2021: Meetings with Skyline's ZTC/OER team

Fall 2022: Identification of physical atlases for a class set

Fall 2022: Identification of online OER texts for individual class exercises.

Fall 2022: Purchase of class set of physical atlases

Spring 2023: In-person sections of GEOG 101 are offered as ZTC

Fall 2023: Online sections of GEOG 101 are offered at ZTC

Mapping

- SKY College Values: (X - Selected)

- **Academic Excellence:** undefined (X)
- **Open Access:** undefined (X)
- **Social Justice:** undefined (X)
- **Student Success and Equity:** undefined (X)
- **Sustainability:** undefined (X)

- SKY Strategic Goals: (X - Highlight Selected)

Goals & Resource Requests

- **Antiracist and Equitable Institution:** Be an antiracist and equitable institution (X)
- **Increased Student Enrollment:** Increase student enrollment by being responsive to communities we serve (X)
- **Student Support and Resources:** Ensure that all students have the support and resources needed to achieve their educational goals (X)

STATUS

Goal Status Date

12/10/2024

Academic Year Updated

2024 - 2025

Goal Status

Behind Schedule

Goal Status Narrative

We have been unable to secure ZTC resources for either our in-person or online GEOG 101 sections. Requests for a class set of atlases, which would make our in-person sections ZTC, have been in limbo at the Division level (this purchase does not qualify as a Resource Request). We have met with ZTC Librarian faculty, and have not been able to identify a comparable free online atlas.

During the 2023-2024 Academic Year, some Geography Faculty have experimented with using individual lab exercises from an OER lab manual. One option worth exploring is whether or not implementing this OER lab manual in its entirety is enough to replace the need for a ZTC online atlas. There are concerns regarding leaked online answer keys, which has been a problem in the past for lab manual textbooks.

Resource Request

Division Name

Social Science and Creative Arts (SS/CA)

Year of Request

2022 - 2023

Resource Type

Supplies

Resource Name

Goode's World Atlas 23rd Edition (class set)

Resource Description

Half of a class set of Goode's World Atlas (23rd edition). This text is currently used in several GEOG 101 lab exercises, and is applicable to several other geography courses as well. This text has been identified as the most comprehensive global atlas at a reasonable price point. As this text is from 2016, and no date has been set for a 24th edition, we are requesting only half of a class set, and will supplement with a more current (albeit less comprehensive) text.

Funds Type – Mark all that apply.

One-time Cost

Briefly explain how this request helps to advance the goals and priorities of your program, the College, the District, and/or the California Community College Chancellor's Office.

By providing a class set of atlases, we are saving students money, as they will not have to purchase textbooks. This is an equity and social justice issue, to ensure that all students have access to this popular transferable lab course. This also furthers the geography department's eventual goal of being an entirely ZTC program.

Cost

1,000

Level of need, with 1 being the most pressing

4

Goals & Resource Requests

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY

Resource Request

Division Name

Social Science and Creative Arts (SS/CA)

Year of Request

2022 - 2023

Resource Type

Supplies

Resource Name

Oxford Atlas of the World, 28th Edition

Resource Description

Half of a class set of Oxford World Atlas (28th ed). While less comprehensive than our current atlas, it is much more up to date (2021). This text can be used in both GEOG 101 as well as other geography courses.

Funds Type – Mark all that apply.

One-time Cost

Briefly explain how this request helps to advance the goals and priorities of your program, the College, the District, and/or the California Community College Chancellor's Office.

Having a class set of atlases would allow our in-person section of GEOG 101 to be ZTC, which will provide equitable access to our course for more students.

Cost

1,000

Level of need, with 1 being the most pressing

4

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY

Resource Request

Division Name

Social Science and Creative Arts (SS/CA)

Year of Request

2023 - 2024

Resource Type

Supplies

Resource Name

Goode's World Atlas 23rd Edition (class set)

Resource Description

Half of a class set of Goode's World Atlas (23rd edition). This text is currently used in several GEOG 101 lab exercises, and is applicable to several other geography courses as well. This text has been identified as the most comprehensive global atlas at a reasonable price point. As this text is from 2016, and no date has been set for a 24th edition, we are requesting only half of a class set, and will supplement with a more current (albeit less comprehensive) text.

Funds Type – Mark all that apply.

One-time Cost

Briefly explain how this request helps to advance the goals and priorities of your program, the College, the District, and/or the California Community College Chancellor's Office.

By providing a class set of atlases, we are saving students money, as they will not have to purchase textbooks. This is an equity and social justice issue, to ensure that all students have access to this popular transferable lab course. This also furthers the geography department's eventual goal of being an entirely ZTC program.

Cost

1,000

Level of need, with 1 being the most pressing

Goals & Resource Requests

2

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY

Resource Request

Division Name

Social Science and Creative Arts (SS/CA)

Year of Request

2023 - 2024

Resource Type

Supplies

Resource Name

Oxford Atlas of the World, 28th Edition

Resource Description

Half of a class set of Oxford World Atlas (28th ed). While less comprehensive than our current atlas, it is much more up to date (2021). This text can be used in both GEOG 101 as well as other geography courses.

Funds Type – Mark all that apply.

One-time Cost

Briefly explain how this request helps to advance the goals and priorities of your program, the College, the District, and/or the California Community College Chancellor's Office.

By providing a class set of atlases, we are saving students money, as they will not have to purchase textbooks. This is an equity and social justice issue, to ensure that all students have access to this popular transferable lab course. This also furthers the geography department's eventual goal of being an entirely ZTC program.

Cost

1,000

Level of need, with 1 being the most pressing

3

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY

Hands-On Learning

Provide students with hands-on learning experiences in in-person sections of GEOG 101. Currently the Geography Department's lab equipment, supply, and sample collection is limited. While online sections of GEOG 101 can continue to view curated online resources to virtually see samples and experiments, hands-on experiences for in-person lab sections would increase student engagement and potentially increase enrollment in in-person sections.

Year Initiated

2023 - 2024

Implementation Step(s) and Timelines

Fall 2023: Identify lessons and/or topics that lend themselves to hands-on experiences

Fall 2023: Locate and obtain price quotes for samples and equipment

Spring 2024: Update lab exercises to reflect new samples and/or equipment

Fall 2024: Purchase samples and equipment

Spring 2025: Begin instruction of updated lab exercises with hands-on learning

Mapping

- SKY Strategic Goals: (X - Highlight Selected)

- **Increased Student Enrollment:** Increase student enrollment by being responsive to communities we serve (X)
- **Student Support and Resources:** Ensure that all students have the support and resources needed to achieve their educational goals (X)
- **Thriving Environment:** Foster a thriving learning and work environment (X)

Goals & Resource Requests

STATUS

Goal Status Date

12/10/2024

Academic Year Updated

2024 - 2025

Goal Status

Behind Schedule

Goal Status Narrative

In our last Resource Request cycle, the Geography Department was able to secure three new pieces of lab equipment: 1) a solar system model, 2) a microscope, and 3) a handheld weather station.

The Solar System Model has been used in the Spring 2024 Partial Solar Eclipse Event, and in the Fall 2024 in-person section of GEOG 100.

The microscope and weather station have not yet been deployed in the lab section.

A separate piece of lab equipment, a 3D topographic volcano model, was successfully used to demonstrate topographic maps in Fall 2024 in-person GEOG 101.

Resource Request

Division Name

Social Science and Creative Arts (SS/CA)

Year of Request

2023 - 2024

Resource Type

Supplies

Resource Name

Geology samples

Resource Description

A class set of geology samples and testing kits, including but not limited to minerals, rocks (igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic), hardness kits, cleavage kits, and soil testing. A class set would be between 10 and 40 depending on contents of kits. Some kits have materials that are destroyed in experiments, so ordering multiples would be important.

Funds Type – Mark all that apply.

One-time Cost

Briefly explain how this request helps to advance the goals and priorities of your program, the College, the District, and/or the California Community College Chancellor's Office.

Exploration and understanding of geologic processes, including mineral & rock composition and the rock cycle, are part of the SLOs of both GEOG 100 and GEOG 101. Access to hands-on learning experiences ensures that students with tactile and/or kinetic learning styles are fully supported in in-person courses.

Cost

500

Level of need, with 1 being the most pressing

2

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY**Resource Request**

Division Name

Social Science and Creative Arts (SS/CA)

Year of Request

2023 - 2024

Goals & Resource Requests

Resource Type

Supplies

Resource Name

Psychrometers

Resource Description

Class set of sling psychrometers for use in physical geography lab (GEOG 101) and weather & climate (GEOG 106).

Funds Type – Mark all that apply.

One-time Cost

Briefly explain how this request helps to advance the goals and priorities of your program, the College, the District, and/or the California Community College Chancellor's Office.

The use of sling psychrometers will allow students to conduct hands-on investigations of real-world weather phenomenon, which is an SLO in GEOG 100 and 101. Hands-on lab experiences may lead to an increase in student enrollment in in-person course sections.

Cost

600

Level of need, with 1 being the most pressing

3

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY**Resource Request**

Division Name

Social Science and Creative Arts (SS/CA)

Year of Request

2023 - 2024

Resource Type

Supplies

Resource Name

Topographic Maps

Resource Description

Printed topographic maps from United States Geological Service for use in physical geography laboratory (GEOG 101).

Funds Type – Mark all that apply.

One-time Cost

Briefly explain how this request helps to advance the goals and priorities of your program, the College, the District, and/or the California Community College Chancellor's Office.

The interpretation of topographic maps is a key component of geography, and a major exercise in our physical geography lab. Currently our labs use online maps, although several students have complained of visibility issues. Printed paper maps would allow students to examine topographic maps with less eye strain and without the need to read off of tablets or laptops.

Cost

100

Level of need, with 1 being the most pressing

4

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY