

**MAJOR FIELD ASSESSMENT PLAN
B. S. BIOLOGY**

The mission of Southeastern Louisiana University is to meet the education and cultural needs, primarily of Southeast Louisiana, to disseminate knowledge and to facilitate life-long learning through quality instruction, research and service in a safe, student-centered environment.

The purpose of the B.S. in Biology is ...

Goal 1

Biology majors should have a strong knowledge of Biology.

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, will be given a locally developed multiple choice exam, and at least XX% will score above XXX.

B. Expected Outcome

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

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".

Goal 2

Biology majors will have the skills needed to conduct and present biological research safely.

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, including charts, graphs, and tables, and write a grammatically correct, scientific report and give an oral presentation.

Assessment

- a. Senior students will present a well organized scientific seminar as part of Biology Seminar. The talk will be evaluated by at least two members of the Biology faculty.

B. Expected Outcome

Biology majors should know basic laboratory skills in Botany, Zoology, and Microbiology including laboratory safety, performing experiments using the scientific method, using basic laboratory equipment, synthesizing, evaluating, and arranging data into meaningful tables, charts, and graphs, and effectively drawing conclusions from the results.

Assessment

On the SLU Exit Survey, at least 80% will indicate they are satisfied with their preparation in basic laboratory skills.

Goal 3

To foster a positive attitude towards science.

Expected Outcome

Graduating seniors will have a positive attitude towards science.

Assessment

On the SLU Exit Survey, at least 80% of the graduating seniors will indicate that their attitude towards science in general and biology in particular is positive.

Goal 4

To foster good faculty/student relationships.

Expected Outcome

Graduating seniors will feel they have a close student/faculty relationship with faculty in their major field.

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. 90% of students will indicate on the SLU Exit Survey that they are satisfied with the opportunities to interact with faculty outside of class.