

Program Level Learning Outcome Assessment - Geography Program

Department of Geography and Environmental Science

PLO: Students will analyze the spatial dimensions of systemic racism and other types of oppression such as those based on gender or religious identity. Students will be able to use scientific evidence and geographic theories to explain spatial patterns of injustice and use geographic knowledge and skills to advance just and sustainable societies.

Learning Outcome Criteria	Does Not Meet Expectations	Approaches Expectations	Meet Expectations	Exceeds Expectations
1. Define relevant concepts, i.e. discrimination and systemic racism.	Little or no understanding of these concepts.	Lists the fundamental vocabulary. Limited understanding of concepts.	Understands terms and articulates relationships to one another.	Advanced understanding of the key concepts, their interplay and how they relate to the marginalization of groups and environmental racism.
2. Identify spatial patterns of racism, oppression and dispossession.	Little or no recognition of spatial patterns of injustice.	Identifies some of the wide range of spatial patterns of injustice.	Identifies a wide range of spatial patterns of injustice. Articulates criteria to determine marginalization.	Sophisticated understanding and application of criteria to define a spatial pattern of injustice.
3. Discuss marginalization of minorities in academia and the historical narrative of the discipline.	Does not recognize that marginalization is a systemic problem.	Limited recognition of the impact of racism in the academy and discipline.	Attributes marginalization in the academy and discipline to a complex interplay of bigotry, discrimination, systemic racism.	Advanced examination of the patterns of the different patterns of representation and participation in the academy and discipline. Nuanced understanding of the variety of contributing factors.
5. Demonstrate consequences of environmental injustice.	Does not recognize patterns of environmental injustice.	Simplistic understanding of how marginalized groups are impacted by environmental injustice.	Illustrate patterns of environmental injustice and consequences for marginalized groups.	Analyze and explain dynamic couplings of environmental justice, health, education, life span, socio-economic status.
6. Propose policy solutions to expose and address systemic racism and other types of oppression.	Unable to propose policy solutions to recognize and address systemic oppression.	Simplistic or partial recognition of system oppression and its solutions.	Survey existing methods of identifying systemic oppression and proposed policy solutions.	Explore and develop a variety of policy solutions situated in geographic contexts and designed to uncover and/or address environmental racism.