Earth Sciences

Academic Program Goals and Student Learning Outcomes

Goal 1: The Earth Sciences Program will produce well-qualified graduates who are nationally competitive for acceptance to graduate programs, professional schools, or for careers in K-12 education, private industry, and governmental agencies.

Students will be able to:

- demonstrate a broad understanding of the concepts, theories, and facts within their chosen field in the earth sciences.
- effectively employ appropriate field methods, technology, and laboratory techniques as required by their chosen career.
- contribute positively to their chosen careers and their communities
- For those students entering K-12 science education, the student will be able to effectively convey concepts and facts relevant to the earth sciences in an active learning environment.

Goal 2: The Earth Sciences Program will enhance students' communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

Students will be able to:

- demonstrate facility with the scientific method of inquiry, including experimental design and data analysis/interpretation.
- demonstrate the ability to find, use, and understand the earth sciences literature effectively.
- read and think critically and analytically.
- communicate effectively orally and in writing.

Goal 3: The Earth Sciences Program will serve as an effective community and regional resource for Earth Sciences and Geographic Information Systems technologies.

Students will be able to:

- provide theoretical and applied GIS services to regional resource planning and management agencies.
- provide community service in outreach projects and internship positions.