

2023-24 General Education Learning Outcome Report – Natural Science

Definition: Students will be able to apply scientific terminology and investigate and draw conclusions about the natural world.

Instructor name	Sara Plaggemeyer
Date	May 20, 2024
Course (e.g., CS 101)	SC 160 Principles of Living Systems
Number of students assessed (not the # in the class)	58
Semester and year assessed (e.g., fall 2023)	Fall 2023 Spring 2024
Identify the specific graded summative assessment(s)	Final exam

Fill in the columns for the indicators that can be assessed using the specific graded summative assessment identified above (enter “NA” on the other rows)

General education indicators: <i>Students were able to...</i>	Results of assessment: For each indicator, indicate the % or # of students who performed below, at, or above expected levels (only include students whose work you assessed)			Reflections: For each indicator, write reflections on anything that stood out for you (e.g., changes in teaching, learning, or assessment strategies; areas for student growth; areas where students excelled).
	% or # below expected level (D/F grade)	% or # at expected level (C grade)	% or # above expected level (A/B grade)	
1. Apply scientific terminology.	5	16	37	For the fall 2023 semester the average for the course on an ABCDF (4-0) scale was 3, while the average for spring 2024 was 2.8. Changes between the semesters included the change from short answer to more multiple-choice homework (more in spring 2024) and the time spent on genetic biotechnology assignments (more in the spring 2024). Although it was expected that the extended time on the genetic biotechnology in spring 2024 would raise the final exam scores, it did not.
2. Apply the scientific method to explore the natural world.	NA			NA
3. Draw conclusions about the natural world.	NA			NA

Teaching/learning success: Explain any teaching or learning strategies you found to be effective for students to demonstrate this general education learning outcome.	Student discussions related to the content of the course impacted the success of the students as they were more likely to complete assignments more regularly than those who did not take part in the discussions.
Next steps to improve student learning: Explain any teaching or learning strategies or curriculum you will change in the future to improve student learning with regard to this general education learning outcome.	Integrate the genetic biotechnology activities into laboratory genetic biotechnology real-world application.