



Texas Southern University  
Assessment Plan 2010-2013

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## **Unit Assessment Plan**

College of Science and Technology

Master of Science in Environmental Toxicology

## Introduction

### **Texas Southern University's Mission**

Texas Southern University is a comprehensive metropolitan university. Building on its legacy as a historically black institution, the university provides academic and research programs that address critical urban issues and prepare an ethnically diverse student population to become a force for positive change in a global society.

*In order to achieve this mission, Texas Southern University provides:*

- quality instruction in a culture of innovative teaching and learning
- basic and applied research and scholarship that is responsive to community issues
- opportunities for public service that benefit the community and the world.

### **Texas Southern University's Vision**

Texas Southern University will become one of the nation's pre-eminent comprehensive metropolitan universities. We will be recognized by the excellence of our programs, the quality of our instruction, our innovative research, and our desire to be a contributing partner to our community, state, nation, and world.

#### ***Accreditation Standards***

Accreditation by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS) Commission on Colleges signifies that the institution: (1) has a mission appropriate to higher education, (2) has resources, programs, and services sufficient to accomplish and sustain that mission, and (3) maintains clearly specified educational objectives that are consistent with its mission and appropriate to the degrees it offers, and that indicate whether it is successful in achieving its stated objectives.

*Source: The Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement, 5<sup>th</sup> edition*

**Goal 1 Assessment Plan 2010-11 to 2012-13**

**1 Goal Description**

Goal 1

Provide students with a solid background in Environmental Toxicology that will allow them to pursue successful careers with Academia, Industry, or governmental agencies.

**2 SLO Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives**

Slo 1

Students shall be able to conduct a research project under supervision of major research advisor as demonstrated by their thesis.

Slo 2

Students shall be able to prove their knowledge of various aspects of Environmental Toxicology by accurately answering specific questions on the Environmental Toxicology qualifying examination.

**3 Metric**

Metric 1.1

Thesis defense results.

Metric 1.2

Environmental Toxicology qualifying examination scores.

**4 Target 2010-11**

Target 1.1

80% of the students will successfully defend their thesis.

Target 1.2

Mid level graduate students will have an 80% passage rate on the qualifying examination.

**5 Findings 2010-11**

Findings 1.1

In the 2010-11 academic year the rate of success in defending their thesis was 100%

Findings 1.2

In the 2010-11 academic year the item analysis indicated 100% of the students had higher than the 70% comprehension . We had an average of 76%

N= 4

**6 Action Plan 2010-11**

Develop a defense survey to determine faculty opinion of student competences in dissertation defense preparation.

Perform item analyses to determine any weaknesses within the various topics of Environmental Toxicology program course offerings.

Increase the assessment to include the students' ability to read, comprehend and disseminate bodies of research in Etox and combine all three subsections into one examination.

Increase the use and review of research articles and current events in all applicable courses

## **7 Target 2011-12**

Target 1.1

85% of the students will successfully defend their thesis.

Target 1.2

Mid level graduate students will have an 80% passage rate on the qualifying examination.

## **8 Findings 2011-12**

Findings 1.1

In the 2011-12 academic year the rate of success in defending their thesis 100%

Findings 1.2

In the 2011-12 academic year the item analysis indicated 100% of the students had higher than the 70% comprehension. We had an average of 85%

N= 5

## **9 Action Plan 2011-12**

Increase the use and review of research articles and current events in all applicable courses

## **10 Target 2012-13**

Target 1.1

85% of the students will successfully defend their thesis.

Target 1.2

Mid level graduate students will have an 80% passage rate on the qualifying examination.

## **11 Findings 2012-13**

Findings 1.1

In the 2012-13 academic year the rate of success in defending their thesis 100%

Findings 1.2

In the 2012-13 academic year the item analysis indicated 100% of the students had higher than the 70% comprehension. We had an average of 85%

N= 8

## **12 Action Plan 2012-13**

Revising student learning objectives/outcomes and curriculum maps to include the students' ability to read, comprehend, and disseminate/communicate bodies of research/data in Etox and combine all three subsections into one examination.

## **13 Additional Reference Documents**

Roster of qualifying examination scores.

**Goal 2 Assessment Plan 2010-11 to 2012-13****1 Goal Description**

Goal 2

Provide students with the ability to review, analyze, and disseminate scientific literature in Environmental Toxicology.

**2 SLO Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives**

Slo 2.1

Students shall be able to critically review a research article in the field of Environmental Toxicology (added in 2009-2010) on this section of the qualifying examination.

Slo 2.2

Students shall be able to orally present and defend a research article in the field of Environmental Toxicology (added in 2010-2011)

**3 Metric**

Metric 2.1

Qualifying examination scores.

Metric 2.2

Results of oral presentations.

**4 Target 2010-11**

Mid level graduate students will have an 80% passage rate.

**5 Findings 2010-11**

In the 2009-10 academic year the item analysis indicated students had 74% comprehension.

**6 Action Plan 2010-11**

Increase the use and review of research articles and current events in all applicable courses.

Due to changes in the program administration, this process was delayed. However, the process will be implemented in next cycle.

**7 Target 2011-12**

Target 2.1

Mid level graduate students will have an 80% passage rate.

Target 2.2

Senior level graduate students will have an 80% passage rate.

**8 Findings 2011-12**

Findings 2.1

In the 2011-12 academic year the item analysis indicated 100% of the students had higher than the 70% comprehension. We had an average 85%

N= 5

Findings 2.2

In the 2011-2012 academic year, the rate of success in defending their oral presentation was 100%

**9 Action Plan 2011-12**

Increase the use and review of research articles and current events in all applicable courses.

**10 Target 2012-13**

Target 2.1

Mid level graduate students will have an 80% passage rate.

Target 2.2

Senior level graduate students will have an 80% passage rate.

**11 Findings 2012-13**

Findings 2.1

In the 2012-13 academic year the item analysis indicated\_100\_% of the students had higher than the 70% comprehension.  
We had an average \_85\_%

N= 8

Findings 2.2

In the 2012-2013 academic year, the rate of success in defending their oral presentation was \_100\_%

**12 Action Plan 2012-13**

Revising student learning objectives/outcomes and curriculum maps to include the studentsâ ability to read, comprehend, and disseminate/communicate bodies of research/data in Etox and combine all three subsections into one examination.

**13 Additional Reference Documents**

Roster of qualifying examination.

Roster of students PowerPoint Presentations.