

COURSE SLO ASSESSMENT REPORT, SCC

Department: Biology Course: Biology 109

Year: 2012 Semester: Fall

1) Outcome to be assessed	2) Means of assessment and criteria of success	3) Summary of data collected	4) Analysis of data	5) Plan of action/what to do next
<p>Identify and explain the definitive characteristics of living organisms in a clear and concise manner.</p>	<p>A series of questions are embedded in the first exam. The questions are ranked according to degree of difficulty with the expectation that the 10% of the students will correctly answer the "A" question (reflecting the typical "A" student), 20% will answer the "B" question correctly, and 68% will answer the "C" question correctly.</p>	<p>A. 1. When an organism becomes a fossil, its tissues are replaced by minerals. It no longer exhibits most of the properties associated with life. Which property is retained by the fossil? A) organization. B) homeostasis. C) growth and reproduction. D) response to stimuli. E) metabolism.</p> <p>Fall 2012 -- (53.1, 87, 71% correct depending on instructor)</p> <p>B. 2. Outside, the non-living world is unorganized and chaotic while inside an organism, there is a relatively constant environment. Maintenance of the constant internal environment exhibits which of the following properties associated with life? A) behavior. B) metabolism. C) growth and development. D) homeostasis. E) adaptation.</p> <p>Fall 2012 -- (65, 62.5%, 64 correct)</p> <p>C. 3. The smallest unit that has all the characteristics of life is A) tissue. B) atom. C) molecule. D) organelle. E) cell.</p> <p>Fall 2012 (76.9, 84%, ND correct)</p>	<p>Question #3 had a high percentage of correct answers. Both question #1 and #2 had about the same percentage of correct answers as past semesters but one section scored lower than the others. Question #3 was not scored in one section but the other sections achieved a significant % correct.</p>	<p>We have continued to use these questions over many semesters as a means of assessment. The number of correct answers really has not varied much over time. The students are achieving the expected level of proficiency for these topics. The department will continue to utilize these questions but also explore other avenues of testing learning.</p>