Environmental Studies
Report on Assessment of Program Learning Objectives

Program Learning Objectives (not a complete list; these will be augmented in subsequent years)

- Students will have a general understanding of basic and advanced ecology, with particular focus on urbanized regions
- Students will be able to understand the use of evidence-based research methods to understand environmental change
- Students will understand the role of science in establishing environmental policies, and the interaction between science and policy, particularly in urban systems
- Students will be able to apply design thinking skills to solve environmental problems, particularly as they relate to urban systems

These are the learning objectives we will assess in the Spring of 2013. The methods we will use are the following:

- Evaluation of the students’ final theses and/or final projects in several courses, using the rubric we have developed
- A self-reflective survey given to all graduating seniors on what they have learned
- Portfolios of student work, including work done in design classes
- Examination of questions added by the ES program to the on-line student evaluations of classes