

ASSESSMENT WEBSITE INFORMATION

College: Sciences and Mathematics
Chair/Director: Tom Risch

Degree Program: Environmental Sciences MS

DATA SAY:

The Environmental Sciences Graduate Program (EVS) required a minimum of nine hours of core courses from outside the students' study area, as chosen from a list

SO WHAT:

This was done before 2007 to accommodate the Interdisciplinary nature of the program.

HOW WE CHANGED:

In 2007, the EVS Program Committee instituted an "Experimental Core," a nine-credit hour course designed to introduce incoming graduate students to the many topics that Environmental Sciences encompasses, to replace the nine-credit hour core above. This was designed as a team-taught, three-semester sequence, and included almost all EVS faculty. The first two semesters were classroom based, with Semester 1 covering mostly science-related topics important to Environmental Sciences, while the second semester focused upon more societal issues, including policy, law, and economic issues. The third semester was designed as a practicum, with students undertaking a limited research problem mentored by EVS faculty.

WHAT WE GOT:

The Program Committee and EVS faculty are evaluating the success of this overview course.

