Required Core Objective – Communication for GEOG 1301: Physical Geography

I. Methodology of Assessment:

A. How will the core objective be covered for this course?

Sample Assignment: All faculty teaching GEOG 1301 will share the HCC Core rubrics for Written Communication and Oral/Visual Communication with their students. Students will receive instruction in how to access the HCC Library Guides to Written Communication and Oral/Visual Communication. Students will also receive instruction on how to access and use Ask Online for free tutorial assistance on written assignments and receive information on local campus or college specific face to face tutoring in written and oral/visual communication.

B. Provide the specific assessment methodology.

One example: For written communication, all students taking GEOG 1301 will be required to write an essay on the final exam on a topic agreed upon by the Geography program committee. A random sample of essays will be chosen from students taking GEOG 1301 each long semester and assessed by a committee of HCC faculty using the Core rubric for written communication. For oral/visual communication, students will be required to complete a project that integrates oral descriptions or presentations of visual aids such as powerpoint, graphics, videos, charts, or graphs on a topic mutually agreed upon with the instructor. A random sample of projects will be chosen from students taking GEOG 1301 each long semester and assessed by a committee of HCC faculty using the Core rubric for Oral/Visual communication.

C. How will the assessment count within the course?

Example: The written essay will count at least 20 percent of the final exam grade. The oral/visual project will count at least 10 percent of the final course grade.

D. Explain how your plan includes a representative sample of HCC faculty and students.

Example: The artifacts (essays and projects) chosen each semester will reflect the Physical Geography courses offered system-wide in any given long semester. This will include a representative sample of all GEOG 1301 offerings at HCC (from full-time and adjunct instructors, and from day, evening/weekend, and distance/hybrid courses, and any other off campus offerings such as dual credit, international, etc.)

E. Other sample assessment tools for measuring communication skills.

Examples:

- Analysis within map/atlas exercises
- Written reports or essays
- Debate/point of view exercises
• Embedded essays on quizzes
• Spatial analysis through remote sensing or GIS techniques

II. Rubric: How will the appropriate rubric(s) be incorporated in the course?
Example: This was addressed in I.A. above.

III. Results: Describe the process of evaluating results.
Example: This was addressed in I.B. above.

IV. Analysis
A. How will the results be documented and archived?
Example: A summary of the results with one example of each “grade” of the rubric will be archived in the Core Assessment Report on the HCC Sharepoint site for Assessments.

B. Describe how the results will be used to improve student learning.
Example: The results of students’ written as well as oral/visual communication will be used to create additional web resources for location in the HCC Library to help instruct students on effective written and oral/visual communication on geographic topics.