

# Geography

## 2019 Program Review

### MJC Program Review 2019

Modesto Junior College's Program Review process is divided into 3 sections:

- Program Analysis (SWOT Analysis)
- Goal Setting and Activities
- Resource Request

### Program Analysis

#### Internal Strengths

##### **1. What strengths does the analysis of student data reveal?**

25 students have declared Geography as their major!! Additionally, 44% of those students are Hispanic and 44% are White regarding ethnicity. (Program Review Data)

##### **2. Are there specific aspects of the program that are exemplary or could serve as a model?**

Students in the Geography program have a 75% term to term retention. And, Geography program completers transferring to a four-year university increased from 37 in 2011-12 to 104 in 2015-16. (Program Review Data)

##### **3. What do others see as the program's strengths?**

Geography courses have broad applicability across majors. Geography approach is unique focusing upon location and cause and effect interrelationships.

##### **4. How well are students meeting program learning outcomes, skills, or competencies; and how are they relevant to careers in your discipline or industries for which you help prepare students?**

Students in geography are meeting program learning outcomes which prepare them well for success in other geography courses and introductory skills in GIS, which accounts for most local geography jobs for students with B bachelor degrees. We have focused upon mapping skills, identification of patterns, and description of patterns (writing skills). This appears to facilitate job opportunities in this field.

## Internal Weaknesses

### **5. What gaps are observed by reviewing the student data?**

No data for African American, Asian students, or Veterans and other special populations. A strong need to ensure most majors graduate with an AAT in Geography at MJC (increase completers).

### **6. What disproportionate gaps need to be addressed?**

Would like to see the disaggregated data to get a better picture of the majors; gender, ethnicity, etc. This will give us a chance to develop stronger outreach and publicity.

### **7. What are areas in which the program could improve? (curriculum, scheduling, modality, other?)**

Geography courses are offered in all modalities; live, online, evenings and weekends (Fridays). The program could expand to create a stronger pool of adjunct faculty as new classes become part of the department offerings in Summer 2020. There will be 8 courses offered in a one person program.

### **8. Where are there gaps in the program on how students are meeting learning outcomes, skills, or competencies?**

Students are not completing the AAT (based on data provided). There is always room for improvement on SLOs and class competencies.

## External Opportunities

### **9. Where are potential opportunities for expansion, improvement, or new program development?**

I would like to see more opportunities for internships for geography students in the business community and city or county structures. Field trips in the region to enable students to identify application of skills and content from classes would stimulate the program.

### **10. What are some industry or disciplinary trends that could enhance the program?**

The GIS program at CSU Stanislaus is growing providing more job opportunities and recognition of geography applications in the community. Liberal Studies demand for GEOG 110 have increased need for more sections as teaching jobs are on the rise in the county.

## External Threats

### **11. How are changing resources, technology, employer, or transfer requirements affecting the program's ability to serve students?**

Due to the breadth of courses offered in geography, many programs, AATs have identified geography courses. This will lead to a need for more sections, and perhaps, a second full-

time geographer. Adding Global Studies (Geog 105/107), Global Studies AAT and Environmental Studies AST will provide students with more opportunities and stimulate a need for more adjunct faculty.

**12. What are some current industry or disciplinary trends that could have a negative impact on the program?**

NA

**13. What other obstacles does the program face?**

Monies to support field trips and other hands-on materials to stimulate student application of geographical skills in order to provide students with greater job opportunities. Funding to discipline related conferences to build contacts and generate possible adjunct pools.

## Goal Setting and Activities

### Goals

Program Goal	Mission Alignment	Area of Focus
1. Create business relationships to develop student internships	Workforce Needs	Internship/Service Learning
2. Increase number of students as majors across all student demographic populations	Equity	Student Support
Increase the number of majors who complete the AAT and transfer to universities	Values	Student Support

### Activities

Activities	In Support of Goal #	Outcome or Deliverable
1. Create outreach event with regional high school Geography instructors	Goal #2	Increased majors and equity (Fall 2020)
2. Event nights each semester for majors discussing the AAT and transfer options	Goal #3	Increased completion and transfer data (Spring 2021)
3. Fieldtrips to local sites that use/employ geographers	Goal #1	Fieldtrips (Spring 2021)
4. Attend professional conferences to obtain adjunct faculty and learn innovative pedagogy	Goal #1	New adjuncts, innovative activities

## Resource Requests

Category	Request	Activity #	Estimated Cost
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Prof. Devel.	Prof Dev. Attendance at CGS and AAG	4	2000
Prof. Devel.	Refreshments for events (\$500 each)	1	500
Prof. Devel.	Field trips for GEOG courses	3	3000
Equipment	Lab materials for GEOG 111	3	2000