

General Education Assessment: PHYS 160 – Astronomy of the Solar System

Objectives (for all questions)

R-B.1. Draw reasonable conclusions within the natural sciences by applying key processes and scientific reasoning

R-B.2. Evaluate credibility of information with scientific content by using critical and logical thinking, knowledge of accepted scientific methods, and appropriate sources

The outcomes were measured through the percentage of students that correctly answered specific questions (Q1 and Q2) embedded in the final exam. The final exam is comprehensive.

Measures and Criterion

Outcomes B.1 and B.2 will be considered successful or achieved if at least 50% of students meet or exceed “Developing” performance on rubric.

Q1. Outcome: Successful

Findings: 75% of the students correctly answered the questions. The outcome falls into the “Developed” category.

Improvement Narrative: A significant percentage of the students performed well. Some students were not able to use the information and apply it. The instructor will provide the students with more practice in this area by having in-class activities that count to the overall grade.

Q2. Outcome: Successful

Findings: 94% correctly answered the questions. The outcome falls into the “Exemplary” category.

Improvement Narrative: The students succeeded in being able to use images (graph or diagrams) to obtain information that was further used to draw conclusions. The instructor is encouraged by the results and plans to implement the use of more images in teaching other concepts, to enhance the overall learning outcomes in the class.