MISSION STATEMENT: The Department of Geology & Geophysics educates all levels of students in geological and geophysical principles through research, classroom and field-based instruction. The scholarly and research activities of the department enhance its educational programs to stimulate inquiry and develop learning skills for the next generation of geoscientists.

GOALS: To prepare graduates for careers in the geosciences by developing the technical expertise and critical thinking skills necessary to define, solve, and communicate scientific problems.

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<th>Intended Objectives/Outcomes</th>
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| Graduates attain a level of technical ability and knowledge to function as professionals in their discipline. | Students will demonstrate their abilities and progress through presentations, manuscripts, and annual committee meetings. | • Annual progress reports will be reviewed by faculty to assure program goals are being met.  
• List of peer reviewed publications and conference presentations will be compiled and reviewed annually. |
| Masters graduates have performed research using technical and problem solving skills to contribute to their field. | Graduates will contribute to the peer-reviewed literature and present work at conferences.         | • Written thesis proposals will be reviewed by faculty (Capstone Project or Thesis Rubric).  
• Oral comprehensive examinations’ quality will be assessed by faculty committee on a revised oral presentation rubric.  
• Thesis defense quality will be assessed by audience and faculty committee (Capstone Project or Thesis Rubric).  
• Our goal is for masters graduates should have contributed to at least one publication or technical report. |
| Communication/presentation skills are consistent with professional standards.                | Graduate students will have experience in giving oral presentations at conferences.                   | • Survey of graduate students and student committees (including oral defenses and exams) will include questions to assess their progress towards the stated objective (Capstone Project |
| Graduates obtain employment or continue education in the field following graduation. | Students will be employed or continue education in a related field within one year after graduation or receive requested mentoring towards employment or continued education. | ● Graduates will be surveyed (Graduate Student Exit Survey and Feedback Seminar).  
● Faculty will be surveyed annually regarding recent graduates. | experience preparing peer-reviewed manuscripts and development of research proposals.  
● List of peer reviewed publications and conference presentations will be compiled and reviewed annually.  
● We will assess the presentation/writing skills improvement for students who take the optional GEOS 675. |