Title Revising ISCI 2001 to Better Support Future Elementary Teacher Science Understanding
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Executive Summary: Integrated Sciences (ISCI) 2001, taught in the Geosciences department is one of two science overview courses for future elementary teachers. During the fall of 2011 it is being co-taught by professors from the Geosciences and the Early Childhood Department. Together they are revising the course to better focus on preparation of future elementary teachers through syllabus changes, instructional and assessment changes. The syllabus topics of instruction have been more closely aligned to the content being taught in Georgia elementary schools. Instruction has been modified to include more lab opportunities and to model best teaching practices in science K-12 education. Feedback from students has been embedded into the assessments and journaling opportunities throughout the course. In addition, the student course evaluations and selected student interviews at the end of the course will be used to evaluate the course and continue the revision during the spring 2012 semester. Dialogue with other institutions in the University System of Georgia (USG) who offer the same ISCI 2001 course will be sought to disseminate the new model as well as to discuss their model. A presentation of the revised course and its analysis will be proposed at the fall 2012 meeting of SASTE.