

End of Year Assessment Report for Programs

Program: Criminal Justice	Semester/year: 2020-2021
Program Director: Michael Laughlin	Submission date: 05/21/2021
Year in Operational Plan: [State what year of your program's OP you are in. Remember to use Section D in the OP to guide your EOY]	

Assessment Methods and Benchmarks

At the close of their degree, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate the ability to recognize, study, and effectively deliberate about key issues which are relevant within Criminal Justice.
- 2. Demonstrate the ability for reasoned and disciplined analysis, original and creative thinking, and effective oral and written communication when considering these issues.**
3. Recognize the value of and importance of exposure to diverse backgrounds, experiences, and opinions and demonstrate awareness, sensitivity, and responsiveness to differences across cultures, social practices, and religions.
4. In accordance with Romans 6-8, students will discover their identity and individuality through self-reflection. Students will determine and develop the special talents they have been given by God and look outside of themselves to recognize how their special talents can be used to meet the needs of others while continuing their work within Criminal Justice.

Based upon the CRJS operational plan, we are in the second year of our operational plan and are therefore evaluating the second program objective.

Program Objective	Introducing	Developing	Mastering
PO 2: Analysis and Communication	Course Activity: CRJS 203 Reflection Papers	Course Activity: CRJS 314 DBA Project AND CRJS 313 Final Paper	Course Activity: CRJS 361 Final Paper/project
	Benchmark: 75%	Benchmark: 75%	Benchmark: 75%
	Evidence: Average grade of reflection papers	Evidence: Average of DBA grades and Grade of final paper	Evidence: Grade

Analysis of Assessment Findings

- (1) The program has done a good job of emphasizing writing throughout the program. The last year the program has attempted to better emphasize oral communication with in-class discussions, small group activities, video presentations, and in-class presentations.
- (2) Both the mastery and the introductory assignments are primarily written, while the DBA project has both written papers and an oral presentation. Changing some of the Intro to CJ papers into presentation building skills would be beneficial in future semesters.
- (3) There have been more classes with presentations or recorded videos as assignments, which is aiming to improve students' oral presentation skills.
- (4) By splitting the assessment of program objectives into 1 program objective per year, it allows a more focused assessment of objectives.

Sharing and Discussion of Assessment Findings

The evaluations, FCARs, and overall courses are discussed among all full-time department faculty members at a face-to-face end of semester meeting in the fall and end of year meeting in the spring. Faculty and other stakeholders in the criminal justice and social work department share FCARs and discussions in person, by phone, and virtually about the courses, assignments, and discuss how these can be refined to better meet the needs of the program objectives and Student Learning Outcomes.

Adjunct faculty member FCARs and evaluations are reviewed by the chair of the department and when and where any issues arise, those issues are discussed on a one-on-one basis between the chair of the department and the adjunct faculty members. Adjunct faculty members are also engaged by the chair of the department periodically to attempt to seek recommendations for course improvements. There are two new adjunct, Allen Turner and Michael Aspland, in Criminal Justice this year. Beginning in the fall of 2021, there will be a new criminal justice minor, new forensics minor, and new crisis management minor. Allen Turner and Michael Aspland are both helping to create and rewrite classes for these minors and for the main criminal justice major.

Use of Assessment Findings for Program Improvement (Action Plan)

- (A) None
- (B) Still being implemented: Similarly, to last year, students entering Intro to CJ were significantly poorer as writers overall than in previous years. In response to this continued trend, in 2021-2022 we will aim to have a full-time faculty member take over teaching of SOCI 101 in-person going forward and ensure there is a focus within that class on APA writing techniques to affect the quality of writing and APA skills before students reach Introduction to Social Work or Introduction to Criminal Justice.
Completed: added CJ minor, forensics minor, and crisis management minor
- (C) Increase opportunities for oral communication skill-building in Introduction to Criminal Justice reflections (implemented Spring of 2022).
- (D) Continue to focus on increasing faith integration and cross-discipline considerations while also integrating in more oral communication learning opportunities.
- (E) COVID-19-dependant but aim to implement an experiential learning opportunity in every on campus CRJS class and seek to likewise improve experiential learning based opportunities/assignments for online students.

Supporting Documents

None attached.