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| **Assurance of Student Learning Report****2023-2024** |
| PCAL | Sociology & Criminology |
| Criminology, AB, 627 |
| Dr. James Kanan, Criminology Program Coordinator |
| ***Is this an online program***? [ ]  Yes [x]  No | Please make sure the Program Learning Outcomes listed match those in CourseLeaf . Indicate verification here [x]  Yes, they match! (If they don’t match, explain on this page under **Assessment Cycle)** |

**\*\*\* Please include Curriculum Map as part of this document (at the end), NOT as a separate file.**

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| ***Use this page to list learning outcomes, measurements, and summarize results for your program. Detailed information must be completed in the subsequent pages. Add more Outcomes as needed.*** |
| **Program Student Learning Outcome 1:** Recognize, apply, and/or interpret common techniques of data analysis in criminological research. |
| **Instrument 1** | Senior Assessment Exam |
| **Instrument 2** |  |
| **Instrument 3** |  |
| **Based on your results, check whether the program met the goal Student Learning Outcome 1.** | **[ ]  Met** | **[x]  Not Met** |
| **Program Student Learning Outcome 2:** Apply the scientific method to criminology research design.  |
| **Instrument 1** | Senior Assessment Exam |
| **Instrument 2** |  |
| **Instrument 3** |  |
| **Based on your results, check whether the program met the goal Student Learning Outcome 2.** |  **[ ]  Met** | **[x]  Not Met** |
| **Program Student Learning Outcome 3:** Identify important criminological theories and describe how theories explain crime-related phenomena at both individual and aggregate levels in society. |
| **Instrument 1** | Senior Assessment Exam |
| **Instrument 2** |  |
| **Instrument 3** |  |
| **Based on your results, check whether the program met the goal Student Learning Outcome 3.** | **[ ]  Met** | **[x]  Not Met** |
| **Assessment Cycle Plan:**  |
| Overall, the results from this assessment indicate that some aspects of our program continue to perform well while other areas need additional development, and assessment of SLO’s 4 and 5 is in the process of being implemented, which should allow for assessment to occur in the next (’24 – ’25) cycle. The following recommendations come out of this year's assessment:* Modification of the curriculum to more directly address the 5 adopted SLOs.
* Removal of the Senior Assessment Exam – still needs a year or two to teach out students who started the program before the curriculum change.
* Introduction of portfolio-based assessment system highlighting the 5 SLOs through course projects/assignments geared toward them.

The above work was adopted and approved by the various departmental, college, and university curriculum committees and is in the process of being implemented. A thoughtful and sustainable assessment plan is a primary goal for the department during the 24 - 25 academic year, but remains a goal in progress with a revised timeline for AY 24 - 25. |

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| **Program Student Learning Outcome 1** |
| **Program Student Learning Outcome**  | Recognize, apply, and/or interpret common techniques of data analysis in criminological research.  |
| **Measurement Instrument 1**  | **Direct** measure of Student Learning: Senior Assessment Exam. Students complete a 1-hour Senior Seminar after completing the four core courses that focus specifically on criminology topics within the Criminology Major. Those courses are: **CRIM 101: Introduction to Criminal Justice**, **SOCL 300 Social Statistics, SOCL 302 Research Methods, and** **CRIM 330 Criminology.** At the start of the senior seminar, students are provided with materials that instruct them to prepare for an exit exam that covers key elements of the core criminology courses, as determined by the criminology faculty. In short, the exam serves as a rudimentary assessment of students’ understanding of statistical techniques and research methodologies used in the analysis of crime and criminality. These are measured by performance on 25 multiple choice questions each representing each topical sections. |
| **Criteria for Student Success** | A score of 70% or higher is deemed a pass. |
| **Program Success Target for this Measurement** | 70% of students score 70% or above. | **Percent of Program Achieving Target** | Below Benchmark:* In Spring 2024, only 57% of students scored a 70% or better on the Statistics portion.
* In Spring 2024, only 65% scored above 70% on the Research Methods section.
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| **Methods**  | Score on a multiple choice exam which included 25 questions (randomly distributed among 100 total) assessing understanding of general criminological concepts and processes within the American Criminal Justice system. |
| **Based on your results, highlight whether the program met the goal Student Learning Outcome 1.** | **[ ]  Met** | **[x]  Not Met** |
| **Results, Conclusion, and Plans for Next Assessment Cycle (Describe what worked, what didn’t, and plan going forward)** |
| We will examine the extent to which (SLOs) for the SOCL 300 and SOCL 302 contribute to the SLOs of the program, and in that process determine whether: 1. The course SLOs across multiple instructors are consistent. 2. There isa need to update some SLOs. 3. The SLOs are measurable. 4. There is alignment between the SLOs, course materials, and performance measures. 5. The performance measures are well formulated. We also intend to explore the collection of in-class artifacts that will better represent student learning with this SLO goal. Plus we believe that the introduction of a new Data Literacy course (SOCL 301) with course goals that we believe will align well with our data-related SLO’s will significantly improve our assessment scores on both the senior assessment exam (as long as it remains in use) and artifacts (which will provide the substance of future assessments).Implementation of the new assessment strategies began Spring 2024 and we have yet to evaluate their utility as assessment tools. |

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| **Program Student Learning Outcome 2** |
| **Program Student Learning Outcome**  | Apply the scientific method to criminology research design. |
| **Measurement Instrument 1** | **Direct** measure of Student Learning: Senior Assessment Exam. Students complete a 1-hour Senior Seminar after completing the four core courses that focus specifically on criminology topics within the Criminology Major. Those courses are: **CRIM 101: Introduction to Criminal Justice**, **SOCL 300 Social Statistics, SOCL 302 Research Methods, and** **CRIM 330 Criminology.** At the start of the senior seminar, students are provided with materials that instruct them to prepare for an exit exam that covers key elements of the core criminology courses, as determined by the criminology faculty. In short, the exam serves as a rudimentary assessment of students’ understanding of general criminological concepts, as measured by performance on 25 multiple choice questions. |
| **Criteria for Student Success** | 70% or higher is deemed a pass. |
| **Program Success Target for this Measurement** | Programmatic success is defined as 75% of students passing the exam, with 75% passing with a subject (CRIM 101) score of 70%. | **Percent of Program Achieving Target** | Below Benchmark:In Spring 2024, only 58% of students passed the assessment exam overall, and 61% passed the CRIM 101 section of the exam. |
| **Methods**  | Direct: Score on a multiple choice exam which included 25 questions each (randomly distributed among 100 total) which assessed understanding of quantitative techniques used to analyze the social problem of crime. |
| **Based on your results, circle or highlight whether the program met the goal Student Learning Outcome 2.** | **[ ]  Met** | **[x]  Not Met** |
| **Results, Conclusion, and Plans for Next Assessment Cycle (Describe what worked, what didn’t, and plan going forward)** |
| We assess this program component each semester, and will continue to do so in conjunction with this year’s Assessment Committee suggestions regarding changes in the style or frequency of such an assessment. Some pending changes will include the collection of in-course artifacts that demonstrate student learning consistent with this SLO as we transition out of using a multiple choice exam to represent student learning. We are concerned that only 58% of students taking the assessment exam passed that exam while only 61% passed the CRIM 101 section. We believe that part of the explanation lies is students not taking the exam seriously (lack of preparation). As we work to improve student learning, we will also be working to improve the measurement instrument(s), through declining dependence on a comprehensive multiple choice exam and greater emphasis on artifacts collected from students in classes represented by targets of SLO 2. |

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| **Program Student Learning Outcome 3** |
| **Program Student Learning Outcome**  | Identify important criminological theories and describe how theories explain crime-related phenomena at both individual and aggregate levels in society. |
| **Measurement Instrument 1** | **Direct** measure of Student Learning: Senior Assessment Exam. Students complete a 1-hour Senior Seminar after completing the four core courses that focus specifically on criminology topics within the Criminology Major. Those courses are: **CRIM 101: Introduction to Criminal Justice**, **SOCL 300 Social Statistics, SOCL 302 Research Methods, and** **CRIM 330 Criminology.** At the start of the senior seminar, students are provided with materials that instruct them to prepare for an exit exam which covers key elements of the core criminology courses, as determined by the criminology faculty. In short, the exit exam includes 25 multiple choice questions that assess students’ understanding of criminological theories and how they are used to explain the social phenomena of crime and criminality. |
| **Criteria for Student Success** | 70% or higher is deemed a pass. |
| **Program Success Target for this Measurement** | Program success for this measure of SLO 3 is deemed to be a minimum of 70% of students to scoring 70% or above on the 25 questions assessing understanding of criminological theories. | **Percent of Program Achieving Target** | Below Benchmark* Only 59% of students in in Spring 2024 scored 70% or better on the theory section of the exam.
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| **Methods**  | Direct: Score on a multiple choice exam which included 25 questions (randomly distributed among 100 total) assessing understanding of criminological theories used to explain the social problem of crime. |
| **Based on your results, circle or highlight whether the program met the goal Student Learning Outcome 3.** | **[ ]  Met** | **[x]  Not Met** |
| **Results, Conclusion, and Plans for Next Assessment Cycle (Describe what worked, what didn’t, and plan going forward)** |
| To start, results from the assessment exam representing this SLO were disappointing, so we will examine the extent to which (SLOs) for the CRIM 330 contribute to this SLO of the program, and in that process determine whether: 1. The course SLOs across multiple instructors are consistent.
2. The course SLOs address the overall goal of this SLO.

At present, the Senior Assessment exam does an adequate, but unsatisfactory job of indicating student learning concerning this SLO. Therefore, beginning with Spring 2024, we began collecting assessment artifacts to replace the Senior Assessment Exam from the CRIM 330 course in order to determine the levels of understanding and learning among students. These have not yet been evaluated, but the outlook is optimistic for artifacts to be a superior method for measuring and assessing this SLO.  |

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| **KEY:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| I = Introduced |  |  |  |  |  |
| R = Reinforced/Developed |  |  |  |  |  |
| M = Mastered |  |  |  |  |  |
| A = Assessed |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | **Student Learning Outcomes** |  |  |
|  |  |  | **SLO1:** | **SLO2:** | **SLO3:** |
|  |  |  | Undergraduates completing the B.A. will define general criminological concepts and describe processes within the American Criminal Justice system. | Undergraduates completing the B.A. will demonstrate a basic facility with statistical techniques and research methodologies used to analyze social issues or phenomena like crime. | Undergraduates completing the B.A. will demonstrate knowledge of criminological theories used to explain the social problem of crime. |
| **Course Subject/Core Course** | **Number** | **Course Title** |   |   |   |
| CRIM | 101 | Introduction to Criminal Justice | I | I | I |
| CRIM | 199 | College & Careers in Criminology | I |  |  |
| SOCL | 300 | Social Statistics |   | I, R, M, A |   |
| SOCL | 301 | Social Statistics Lab |  | I,R,M,A |  |
| SOCL | 302 | Social Research Methods |   | I, A |   |
| CRIM  | 330 | Criminology | R | R | I, R |
| CRIM | 499 | Senior Seminar (being phased out) | M/A | M/A | M/A |
| CRIM | 222 | Introduction to Crime Mapping | R | R |   |
| CRIM | 232 | Introduction to Law Enforcement | R |   |   |
| CRIM | 233 | Alternatives to Confinement | R |   |   |
| CRIM | 238 | Victimology & Victim Advocacy | R | R | R |
| CRIM | 234 | Crime & Popular Culter | R |  | R |
| SOCL | 309 | Social Deviance | R | R | R |
| CRIM | 332 | Juvenile Delinquency | R |   | R |
| CRIM | 361 | Race, Class, and Crime | R | R | R |
| CRIM | 370 | Issues in Policing | R | R | R |
| CRIM | 380 | Penology | R | R | R |
| CRIM | 430 | Comparative Systems of Juv Justice | R |   | R |
| CRIM | 432 | Sociology of Criminal Law | R |   | R |
| CRIM | 434 | Organized Crime | R | R  | R |
| SOCL | 435 | Family Violence | R | R | R |
| CRIM | 446 | Gender, Crime, and Justice | R |   | R |
| CRIM | 451 | White-Collar Crime | R |   | R |
| CRIM | 456 | Homicide and Serial Homicide | R | R | R |