

**MAJOR FIELD ASSESSMENT BI-ANNUAL REPORT
B.A. CRIMINAL JUSTICE
FALL 2003 TO SPRING 2005**

Goal 1

The baccalaureate program in Criminal Justice will provide students knowledge in the field of Criminal Justice.

A. Expected Outcome

Students completing the baccalaureate program in Criminal Justice will demonstrate an acceptable level of knowledge of the core curriculum of the program.

Assessment

Seventy-five percent of Criminal Justice graduates will score 70% or above on written exams given during the last semester's work.

Results Obtained

The department is not able to determine if this expected outcome has been met from the above assessment strategy as Criminal Justice professors were not aware of this assessment strategy or failed to provide the requisite information. The department must try to ensure that this becomes a more useful assessment tool in the future or/and develop a more effective assessment strategy for this expected outcome in the future.

B. Expected Outcome

Students completing the baccalaureate program in Criminal Justice will express a high level of satisfaction with their criminal justice curriculum.

Assessment

- a. On the SLU Exit Survey, 75% of criminal justice BA majors will express satisfaction with the criminal justice curriculum.

Results Obtained

The 2004-2005 Southeastern Exit Survey provides some insight into this expected outcome. Of the 57 students who provided information 75.4% expressed their satisfaction with the overall quality of the department. Somewhat contradictorily, 71.9% were satisfied with the effectiveness of the faculty as teachers, but 86% expressed satisfaction with the quality of instruction in advanced courses and 80.7% were satisfied with the clarity of curriculum requirements. This may indicate that Criminal Justice professors who are full-time and teach advanced courses and advise students may be doing a better

job than the lecturers who are hired to teach 100 and 200 level classes. This issue needs to be examined in greater depth and the department must consider other assessment strategies for future MFA's.

Assessment

- b. On the Undergraduate Alumni Survey, 75% of alumni will express satisfaction with the criminal justice curriculum.

Results Obtained

The department is not able to determine if this expected outcome has been met from the above assessment strategy, as the department does not have the Undergraduate Alumni Survey at its disposal. Clearly, the department must try to ensure that this survey becomes a more useful assessment tool in the future or/and develop a more effective assessment strategy for this expected outcome in the future.

Goal 2

To provide students with the basic skills needed for work in the Criminal Justice field.

A. Expected Outcome

Students completing the baccalaureate program in Criminal Justice will be able to identify, analyze, and respond to problem situations typical of criminal justice professionals. Typical situations are those involving civil rights, law enforcement and legal issues. Students will also show competence in written and verbal communications.

Assessment

Criminal Justice seniors will score a minimum of seventy-five on an examination employing questions of recognition, total recall, and written essays assessing mastery of the aforementioned skills.

Results Obtained

The department is not able to determine if this expected outcome has been met from the above assessment strategy, as the department does not have an adequate measurement tool at its disposal to examine the above skills. Clearly, the department must develop a more useful assessment tool in the future or/and develop a more effective assessment strategy for this expected outcome in the future.

APPLICATION OF ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

On January 13, 2005 the faculty of the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminal Justice held its first faculty retreat to discuss the current state of the department and develop a five year plan to address the Major Field Assessment Process, the recruiting and retention of majors and the development of departmental faculty. The outcome of this retreat will be reflected in the next MFA plan to be filed in the fall semester of 2008.

The department will begin the Social Justice Speaker Series in the fall of 2005 to address issues of importance to the citizens of Louisiana, develop community-department relationships, and to attract interested students to the Criminal Justice program.