

Major Field Assessment Plan
B.A. Criminal Justice
May 2009

The mission of Southeastern Louisiana University is to meet the educational and cultural needs of society, primarily those of Southeast Louisiana, to disseminate knowledge and to facilitate life-long learning through quality instruction, research and service in a safe, student-centered environment.

The purpose of the B.A. in Criminal Justice is to provide students with a theoretical and practical understanding of the causes and effects of crime and deviance. This program prepares students for careers in the criminal justice system, such as law enforcement and corrections. In addition, the program prepares students for advanced studies in criminal justice, law, or related disciplines.

In addressing the University's and Department's mission, the B.A. in Criminal Justice provides course offerings in four concentration areas: 1. Delinquency/Deviance, 2. Law Enforcement, 3. Corrections, and 4. Pre-Law/Courts.

Goal 1

To provide our students with a critical understanding of criminal justice institutions and processes.

A. Expected Outcomes

Students completing the baccalaureate program in Criminal Justice will demonstrate a reasonable mastery of knowledge in the core curriculum of the program.

B. Assessment

- 1) Students will complete the core courses in Criminal Justice with grades of "C" or better.
- 2) Students will take an evaluation exam during their CJ 101 course and again at the completion of the program. Once students have submitted a graduation application, they will be contacted and an exit exam date determined. Students will demonstrate a substantive improvement in their score on their understanding of criminal justice institutions and processes.

Goal 2

To provide students with a critical understanding of the major explanations and the causes of criminal behavior.

A. Expected Outcomes

Students completing the baccalaureate program in Criminal Justice will demonstrate a reasonable mastery of the major theories and perspectives of criminal behavior.

B. Assessment

- 1) Students will complete the core courses in Criminal Justice with grades of “C” or better.
- 2) Students will take an evaluation exam during their CJ 101 course and again at the completion of the program. Once students have submitted a graduation application, they will be contacted and an exit exam date determined. Students will demonstrate a substantive improvement in their score on their understanding of major theories and perspectives of criminal behavior.

Goal 3

To provide students with the tools and skills to communicate effectively as a criminal justice professional.

A. Expected Outcomes

Students completing the baccalaureate program in Criminal Justice will be able to express themselves appropriately in professional settings through written communication.

B. Assessment

- 1) Students will complete the core courses in Criminal Justice with grades of “C” or better.
- 2) Students will take an evaluation exam during their CJ 101 course and again at the completion of the program. Once students have submitted a graduation application, they will be contacted and an exit exam date determined. Students will demonstrate a substantive improvement in their scores on the written assessment component of the evaluation exam.

Goal 4

Students completing the baccalaureate program in Criminal Justice will express a high level of satisfaction with the level of instruction received in the program.

A. Expected Outcomes

Students completing the baccalaureate program in Criminal Justice will report satisfaction with the overall quality of the curriculum and with the overall level of instruction received in the program.

B. Assessment

- 1) On the SLU Exit Survey, 75% of the students completing the baccalaureate program in Criminal Justice will express satisfaction with the curriculum and with the overall level of instruction received in the program.