

**MAJOR FIELD ASSESSMENT BI-ANNUAL REPORT  
B.A. CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
FALL 2005 TO SPRING 2007**

The mission of Southeastern Louisiana University is to meet the educational and cultural needs, primarily 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. degree in Criminal Justice is to prepare students for citizenship in the modern world by giving them a better knowledge and understanding of their social, cultural, economic, and physical environment.

**Goal 1**

To 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 keep adequate records and provide the requisite information. Recognizing this problem, departmental faculty is currently developing a new assessment strategy and a repository for records that will allow for a more complete assessment of departmental expectations.

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 2005-2006 Southeastern Exit Survey provides some insight into this expected outcome. Of the 65 CJ-BA students who provided information, 78.5% indicated that they were “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with the overall quality of their degree program and 73.8% were “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with the overall quality of the department. Similarly on the 2006-2007 Southeastern Exit Survey, of the 74 responding CJ-BA students who provided information, 77% indicated that they were “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with the overall quality of their degree program and 82.4% were “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with the overall quality of the department.

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 has not received the 2005-2006 Undergraduate Alumni Survey. 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 oral communication.

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 has yet to agree upon an exit test process that would permit the measurement of his expected outcome. The committee began to

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work in August 2008 and will soon submit a completely redesigned MFA that will include a more appropriate measurement tool and ensure the ability to store, process and analyze student information.

### **Goal 3**

To provide students with a cultural or global perspective

#### A. Expected Outcome

Students completing the associate program in Criminal Justice will be exposed to cultural and global perspective through completion of the required SOC 101 course and a three-hour social science elective which may include anthropology, sociology or geography, all of which examine global and cultural issues.

#### Assessment

A student in the B.A. in Criminal Justice program will satisfactorily complete SOC 101 and the social science elective course.

#### Results Obtained

All students who completed the CJ-AA program in this assessment period satisfactorily completed SOC 101 and the social science elective course.

### **APPLICATION OF ASSESSMENT INFORMATION**

In August 2008 the faculty of the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminal Justice held its second 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 began 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.

The department began its Study Abroad program in 2002 and participating students have been exposed to cross-cultural immersion experiences that foster a greater understanding of global and cultural issues.