

**MAJOR FIELD ASSESSMENT**  
**M.S. APPLIED SOCIOLOGY**  
**December 2005**

The mission of Southeastern Louisiana University is to meet the education 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 MS Program in Applied Sociology attempts to prepare students to research and analyze current conditions and, working with members of the community, develop strategies for the effective and efficient functioning of institutions, organizations and community groups.

**1. Goal 1**

Provide students with knowledge of the field of applied sociology.

a. Assessment

- (1) Criterion: Students completing the masters program in Applied Sociology will be able to demonstrate a high level of understanding of applied sociological theory, methods, statistics and evaluation.

Procedure 1: An understanding of this criterion is established by examining formal coursework grades corresponding to these four areas. All students are required to take SOC 603 Applied Social Theory, SOC 604 Applied Research Design and Methodology, SOC 605 Advanced Statistics for Applied Sociology, SOC 606 Evaluation and Assessment.

Procedure 2: Students' sociological knowledge is measured by faculty committee evaluations of students' performance on their Internship/Thesis Proposal Defense and their Internship/ Thesis Defense-Oral Exams.

These five students displayed an acceptable ability to apply their sociological knowledge to the development of programs and research activities as determined by faculty committee evaluations of their performance during their Internship/Thesis Proposal Defense and their Internship/Thesis Defense-Oral Exams.

- (2) Criterion: A student graduating with the M.S. in Applied Sociology will have a GPA no lower than 3.0.

Procedure: An understanding of this criterion is established by examining GPAs of students who have successfully completed the M.S. in Applied Sociology degree during the assessment period.

## **2. Goal 2**

To provide students with the skills needed for work in middle to upper management of public agencies or similar organizations or for further graduate study at this or other universities.

- (1) Criterion: Students graduating with the M.S. in Applied Sociology will complete a field internship or applied research thesis project in which they will master applied sociological skills.

Procedure: An understanding of this criterion is established by examining successful completion of field internship or applied research thesis projects the M.S. in Applied Sociology program during the assessment period.

## **3. Goal**

To provide students with a cultural, global perspective sociological perspective.

- (1) Criterion: Students completing the masters program in Applied Sociology will gain an awareness of an applied sociologist's role in a multicultural environment through an internship in an agency that serves the public or through a research project with a multicultural or global perspective and submit and successfully defend a written internship report or thesis to the graduate faculty.

Procedure: An understanding of this criterion is established by examining successful completion of field internship or applied research thesis projects the M.S. in Applied Sociology program during the assessment period.

- (2) Criterion: Students graduating with the M.S. in Applied Sociology will have had a opportunity to participate in a study abroad program that offers sociological coursework in a cultural immersion environment..

Procedure: An understanding of this criterion is established by examining the number of students who have successfully completed the study abroad program during the assessment period.