

2016-2017 Assessment Cycle COLA_Criminal Justice MS

Mission (due 1/20/17)

University Mission

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette offers an exceptional education informed by diverse worldviews grounded in tradition, heritage, and culture. We develop leaders and innovators who advance knowledge, cultivate aesthetic sensibility, and improve the human condition.

University Values

We strive to create a community of leaders and innovators in an environment that fosters a desire to advance and disseminate knowledge. We support the mission of the university by actualizing our core values of equity, integrity, intellectual curiosity, creativity, tradition, transparency, respect, collaboration, pluralism, and sustainability.

University Vision

We strive to be included in the top 25% of our peer institutions by 2020, improving our national and international status and recognition.

College / Department / Program Mission

College Mission

Provide the college mission in the space provided. If none is available, write "None Available in 2016-2017."

The College of Liberal Arts is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge through teaching, research, and service. The College teaches students to think critically, applying scientific principles and intellectual schema to understand human behavior and society in a diverse world, to express ideas and ideals in a variety of forms, and to understand themselves and others as members of regional and global communities. The intellectual and creative foundations of this enterprise are written and oral communication, analytical and reasoning skills, and the ability to solve problems creatively. Each departmental curriculum presents perspectives from the past, provides an understanding of the present and directs attention to the challenges of the future. As active researchers, faculty in the College work to advance the frontiers of knowledge and our understanding of humanity and the world we live in, and to use that knowledge and understanding to improve the human condition.

Department / Program Mission

Provide the department / program mission in the space provided. If none is available, write "None Available in 2016-2017".

We live in a world where we are inundated with images of crime and injustice. Our nation spends billions annually on the crime problem. Unfortunately, public policies, programs, and attempted solutions to our crime problem are too frequently driven by media imagery and public scares, rather than empirical reality. It is our departmental mission to contribute to ensuring humane, just, and effective crime and justice policies, programs, and practices by providing our students with the knowledge and skills necessary to become informed citizens and agents of justice.

Assessment Plan (due 1/20/17)

Assessment List (Goals / Objectives, Assessment Measures and Criteria for Success)

Assessment List

Goal/Objective	Critical Analysis		
Legends	SLO - Student Learning Outcome/Objective (academic units);		
Standards/Outcomes			
Assessment Measures			
	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Attachments
	Direct - Comprehensive Exam (graduate level)	For all exams, students will average 3/5 "adequate" on the "critical appraisal" dimension of the comprehensive exam rubric.	Comprehensive_Exam_Rubric.pdf
	Direct - Thesis	For all theses reviewed, students will average 4/5 ("advanced") on the "Critical Appraisal" dimension of the thesis rubric.	Thesis_and_Research_Methods_Rubric.pdf

Goal/Objective	Written communication skills		
Legends	SLO - Student Learning Outcome/Objective (academic units);		
Standards/Outcomes			
Assessment Measures			
	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Attachments
	Direct - Comprehensive Exam (graduate level)	For all exams reviewed, students will average 12/20 ("adequate") across the four dimensions of the comp exam rubric	Comprehensive_Exam_Rubric.pdf
	Direct - Thesis	For all exams reviewed, students will average 15/25 across all dimensions of the thesis rubric	Thesis_and_Research_Methods_Rubric.pdf

Goal/Objective	Oral Communication
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Legends	SLO - Student Learning Outcome/Objective (academic units);											
Standards/Outcomes												
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Goal/Objective	Knowledge and application of research design											
Legends	SLO - Student Learning Outcome/Objective (academic units);											
Standards/Outcomes												
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Goal/Objective	Placement		
Legends	PO - Program Objective (academic units);		
Standards/Outcomes			
Assessment			

Measures	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Attachments
	Indirect - Survey - alumni	Surveys will indicate that at least 25% of program alumni are employed full time in a criminal justice or related field, or are a full time doctoral student in a criminal justice or related PhD program.	

Goal/Objective	Program Satisfaction		
Legends	PO - Program Objective (academic units);		
Standards/Outcomes			
Assessment Measures	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Attachments
	Indirect - Exit Interviews	Survey results will indicate an average score of "satisfied" in relation to satisfaction questions about quality of teaching and availability of courses to take.	

Results & Improvements (due 9/15/17)

Results and Improvement Narratives

Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Critical Analysis

Goal/Objective	Critical Analysis		
Legends	SLO - Student Learning Outcome/Objective (academic units);		
Standards/Outcomes			
Assessment Measures	Assessment Measure	Criterion	
	Direct - Comprehensive Exam (graduate level)	For all exams, students will average 3/5 "adequate" on the "critical appraisal" dimension of the comprehensive exam rubric.	
	Direct - Thesis	For all theses reviewed, students will average 4/5 ("advanced") on the "Critical Appraisal" dimension of the thesis rubric.	

Assessment Findings	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Summary	Attachments of the Assessments	Improvement Narratives
	Direct - Comprehensive Exam (graduate level)	Has the criterion For all exams, students will average 3/5 "adequate" on the "critical appraisal" dimension of the comprehensive exam rubric. been met yet? Met	Only one student completed a comprehensive exam during 2016-2017. The average score for "Critical Appraisal" across all the questions was a 3.33, which exceeded the 3.0 target.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: We will continue to work with students to make sure their grasp of critical thinking is above average.
	Direct - Thesis	Has the criterion For all theses reviewed, students will average 4/5 ("advanced") on the "Critical Appraisal" dimension of the thesis rubric. been met yet? Not met	Across all theses submitted, the average score on the "Critical Appraisal" dimension was 3.33.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: We need to monitor and enhance the critical thinking aspect of our thesis writers this year.

Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Written communication skills

Goal/Objective	Written communication skills				
Legends	SLO - Student Learning Outcome/Objective (academic units);				
Standards/Outcomes					
Assessment Measures	Assessment Measure	Criterion			
	Direct - Comprehensive Exam (graduate level)	For all exams reviewed, students will average 12/20 ("adequate") across the four dimensions of the comp exam rubric			
	Direct - Thesis	For all exams reviewed, students will average 15/25 across all dimensions of the thesis rubric			
Assessment Findings	Assessment	Criterion	Summary	Attachments	Improvement

	Measure			of the Assessments	Narratives
	Direct - Comprehensive Exam (graduate level)	Has the criterion For all exams reviewed, students will average 12/20 ("adequate") across the four dimensions of the comp exam rubric been met yet? Met	We had one comprehensive exam student, who scored a total of 13.2 out of 20.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: We will continue to work with students to make sure they are familiar with all aspects of the rubric and are meeting/exceeding targets.
	Direct - Thesis	Has the criterion For all exams reviewed, students will average 15/25 across all dimensions of the thesis rubric been met yet? Met	The average score for all theses completed was 16.2 out of 25 across all dimensions of the thesis rubric.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: We will continue to work with students to make sure they are familiar with all aspects of the rubric and are meeting/exceeding targets.

Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Oral Communication

Goal/Objective	Oral Communication				
Legends	SLO - Student Learning Outcome/Objective (academic units);				
Standards/Outcomes					
Assessment Measures	Assessment Measure		Criterion		
	Direct - Comprehensive Exam (graduate level)		Students will average 85/100 across all dimensions of the oral examination rubric.		
	Direct - Thesis		Students will average 85/100 across all dimensions of the oral examination rubric.		
Assessment Findings					
	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Summary	Attachments of the Assessments	Improvement Narratives

	Direct - Comprehensive Exam (graduate level)	Has the criterion Students will average 85/100 across all dimensions of the oral examination rubric. been met yet? Not met	The oral examination average score was 73.5. This shows a weakness among students who are taking the comprehensive exam in their ability to explain complexity.		- Pedagogical Change : We need to incorporate more speaking/presentation opportunities into classes, perhaps incorporate an oral testing component into some classes, perhaps teaching speaking skills as well.
	Direct - Thesis	Has the criterion Students will average 85/100 across all dimensions of the oral examination rubric. been met yet? Not met	Our average score of the oral component of the thesis was a score of 71.9.		- Pedagogical Change : We need to incorporate more speaking/presentation opportunities into classes, perhaps incorporate an oral testing component into some classes, perhaps teaching speaking skills as well.

Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Knowledge and application of research design

Goal/Objective	Knowledge and application of research design				
Legends	SLO - Student Learning Outcome/Objective (academic units);				
Standards/Outcomes					
Assessment Measures	Assessment Measure		Criterion		
	Direct - Thesis		All theses reviewed will average 4/5 ("advanced") on the "Research Methods Knowledge" dimension of the thesis and research methods rubric.		
	Direct - Written Assignment		For all Research Methods 590 term papers reviewed, average scores of 3/5 ("proficient") on the "Research Methods Knowledge" dimension of the thesis and research methods rubric.		
Assessment Findings					
	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Summary	Attachments of the Assessments	Improvement Narratives

	Direct - Thesis	Has the criterion All theses reviewed will average 4/5 ("advanced") on the "Research Methods Knowledge" dimension of the thesis and research methods rubric. been met yet? Not met	All completed theses last year had an average score of 3.1 out of 5 across the "Research Methods Knowledge" dimension of the thesis/research methods rubric.		- Pedagogical Change : Emphasize research procedures and methods not only during Research Methods class, but during all coursework.
	Direct - Written Assignment	Has the criterion For all Research Methods 590 term papers reviewed, average scores of 3/5 ("proficient") on the "Research Methods Knowledge" dimension of the thesis and research methods rubric. been met yet? Not met	We did not assess this last year as the course was not taught after the new rubrics and SLOs were adopted. The Research Methods 590 course will be taught in Spring 2018. We will assess it in AY 2017-2018.		

Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Placement

Goal/Objective	Placement				
Legends	PO - Program Objective (academic units);				
Standards/Outcomes					
Assessment Measures	Assessment Measure	Criterion			
	Indirect - Survey - alumni	Surveys will indicate that at least 25% of program alumni are employed full time in a criminal justice or related field, or are a full time doctoral student in a criminal justice or related PhD program.			
Assessment Findings					
	Assessment Measure	Criterion	Summary	Attachments of the Assessments	Improvement Narratives

	Indirect - Survey - alumni	Has the criterion Surveys will indicate that at least 25% of program alumni are employed full time in a criminal justice or related field, or are a full time doctoral student in a criminal justice or related PhD program. been met yet? Met	An alumni survey showed that 25% were either employed in a CJ-related field or a PhD student in a CJ-related field.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: We will continue to survey alumni and will develop new ideas on placement strategies.
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Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Program Satisfaction

Goal/Objective	Program Satisfaction									
Legends	PO - Program Objective (academic units);									
Standards/Outcomes										
Assessment Measures	<table border="1"> <tr> <th data-bbox="365 1102 613 1186">Assessment Measure</th> <th colspan="4" data-bbox="613 1102 1552 1186">Criterion</th> </tr> </table>					Assessment Measure	Criterion			
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Indirect - Exit Interviews	Survey results will indicate an average score of "satisfied" in relation to satisfaction questions about quality of teaching and availability of courses to take.									
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Indirect - Exit Interviews	Has the criterion Survey results will indicate an average score of "satisfied" in relation to satisfaction questions about quality of teaching and availability of courses to take. been met yet? Met	A survey was sent to all program alumni. In response to the questions "How satisfied were you with the quality of teaching?" and "How satisfied were you with the availability of classes?" The average score was between "Satisfied" and		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: We will continue to work with students to survey alumni to ensure that the program is meeting their needs and expectations.						

			"Very Satisfied."		

Reflection (Due 9/15/17)

Reflection

1) How were assessment results shared in the unit?

Please select all that apply. If "other", please use the text box to elaborate.

Distributed via email

Presented formally at staff / department / committee meetings

Discussed informally

Other (explain in text box below) (selected)

I distributed results in a packet that explained our met and non-met targets. Because we have new graduate faculty now, I also distributed our rubrics to see if there were any suggestions or new ideas about the rubrics we have adopted.

2) How frequently were assessment results shared in the unit?

Frequently (>4 times per cycle)

Periodically (2-4 times per cycle)

Once per cycle (selected)

Results were not shared this cycle

3) With whom were assessment results shared?

Please select all that apply.

Department Head (selected)

Dean / Asst. or Assoc. Dean

Departmental assessment committee

Other faculty / staff (selected)

4) What were the measurable or perceivable effects on your current (2016-2017) findings based on prior action plans (created in 2015-2016)?

Because all of our rubrics changed from pass/fail to more robust measures, we do not have comparisons prior to AY 2016-2017.

5) What has the unit learned from the current assessment cycle?

We clearly need to work on students' written and oral communication skills. With more faculty to assist with courses and comp/thesis charring activities, this should make a difference in our Student Learning Outcomes for the future. All of our thesis writers showed a lack of critical appraisal skills and research methods knowledge. These two aspects should be emphasized in all classes in order to improve scores. Also, we found it difficult to get surveys back from several alumni. This is something we can work on this year by establishing a database and tracking down alumni.

Attachments

Attachments

Upload any supporting documents related to your assessment plans, results, or improvements. Documents may include rubrics, survey questions, reports, etc. There is no limit to the number of documents you can upload.

Click "Select File" to upload document(s)