



## Program Assessment Report (PAR)

### Sociology (SOC) Baccalaureate Degree

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**ACADEMIC YEAR COVERED BY THIS REPORT:** 2020-2021

#### I. PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

Direct Measure Sociology Assessment Committee members will collect and assess a sample of individual or group papers or presentations from an upper-level Distributive Course (e.g. Sociology of Gender, Race & Ethnicity) that requires students to develop and evaluate multiple explanations for a given social circumstance (racial differentials in infant mortality or sex differences in suicide methodologies). Indirect Measure Sociology Major Survey was sent to students in both the fall and spring semesters. But no indirect measures were slated for inclusion in this year's assessment according to the assessment plan.

#### II. PROCEDURES USED FOR ASSESSMENT

##### A. Direct Assessment

Papers were solicited from three upper division courses in the Fall 2020 semester. Students' final papers and presentations from SOC 3700 Criminology course were sent to the Sociology Assessment Committee. All submissions were analyzed for the presence or absence of the ability to develop and evaluate multiple explanations for the criminological topics of their choice.

##### B. Scoring of Student Work

The chair of the Sociology Assessment committee examined 25 papers and presentations from SOC 3700 Criminology course in the Fall 2020. Each was examined to determine whether or not the student had developed and evaluated multiple explanations for their criminological topic of choice or not.

### **C. Indirect Assessment**

There were no indirect assessment tasks in the assessment plan for this cycle. Sociology Major Surveys were sent out via Qualtrics both in Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 to all current Sociology majors. There were 2 completed responses in the fall and 3 in the spring. For most of the items about the sociology program, the majority of respondents agreed with the statements about their learning and skills. The Sociology Assessment chair has written a report to share with faculty about the items where there was disagreement so that we may seek to improve the program in these areas.

### **III. ASSESSMENT RESULTS/INFORMATION:**

Sociology Assessment Committee members will collect and assess a sample of individual or group papers or presentations from an upper-level Distributive Course (e.g. Sociology of Gender, Race & Ethnicity) that requires students to develop and evaluate multiple explanations for a given social circumstance (racial differentials in infant mortality or sex differences in suicide methodologies).

Twenty-five (25) final papers or presentations from SOC 3700 Criminology were examined by the Sociology Assessment chair to determine whether or not students had developed and evaluated multiple explanations for their criminological topic of choice. Out of the 25 items examined, 18 or 72% had developed and evaluated multiple explanations for the criminological topic of choice. The benchmark was 70% and therefore was met.

The majority of students for both learning outcomes agreed they had learned critical thinking and to work effectively as part of a team.

### **IV. ACTIONS TO IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING**

This assessment report will be shared with faculty in a Spring 2022 faculty meeting and by archiving it on the K drive for their use. We will discuss the issues raised on the Sociology Major Survey and encourage more participation from faculty in the assessment process. Assessment Committee sent requests for materials to assess direct learning outcomes early in each semester and sent out a reminder toward the end of the semester to encourage better responses. This appeared to be effective and will be continued.

### **V. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

Additional documentation, when provided, is stored in the internal Academic Program Assessment of Student Learning SharePoint site.