



Program Name	Date Completed
Sociology BS/BA	June 2025
Report Completed By	Report Contributors
Susan Calhoun-Stuber (Dept. Chair)	
Brief Statement of Program Mission and Goals	
<p>Sociology examines human society with an emphasis on social structure, social interaction, and social change. One of the sociology program's special emphasis areas is understanding social inequalities and their implication for social justice. Comparative, cross-national, and cross-cultural perspectives are also offered in many courses. The analytic frameworks sociologists employ encourage students to think about complex situations in a new way by showing how the social environment influences people's life options, advantages and disadvantages. Sociologists are interested not only in understanding social issues and social organization, but also in resolving social problems and improving social conditions for human populations. The insights gained from a sociological perspective include the ability to perceive the structures and patterns upon which everyday life rests, to understand the interaction between individual agency and social forces, to interpret events from diverse perspectives, and to examine existing social arrangements critically. The major is organized to provide a firm foundation in theory and research methods while allowing students to tailor their major to their specific subject interests.</p>	

Table I Closing the Loop

Report on at least one data-informed change to your curriculum during AY 2024-2025 that was implemented to improve student learning, in response to prior assessments or other data.

A. Describe issues or SLOs addressed in the AY 2024-2025 cycle. Paste SLOs verbatim below.
SLO 2 - An ability to understand, interpret, and apply various research methodologies in the field of criminology
B. In which academic year and semester was this SLO last assessed to generate data that informed the change(s)?
Spring 2022

C. What were the recommendations for change in the previous cycle? (See Column H in the previous cycle's report.)

Examine how these topics are introduced in the required methods course and review program curricula to determine how all areas addressed by SLO 2 are reinforced and what course assessments are designed to support students in mastering SLO 2.

D. How were the recommendations for change acted upon?

Enrollment caps were kept at 20 seats in the required introductory methods class (205). Undergraduate TAs for 205 supported in some semesters.
Advanced Methods class developed and submitted as new course proposal, designated as a core requirement for BS students (approved effective catalog year 2024).

E. How did the change(s) impact student learning? If the change was not effective, what are the next steps or new recommendations?

Assessment is ongoing and will be formally reported on in 2026 assessment report.

Enter Table I Closing the Loop Comments Below



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Table II Annual assessment of Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) in AY 2024-25

1. Include information to share assessment processes, results, and recommendations for improved student learning. Copy this table for each assessed outcome.

A. Program SLO assessed in this cycle. Copy the SLOs verbatim from the assessment plan.
SLO 4 - Demonstrate critical thinking by evaluating arguments and evidence related to social issues and by connecting sociological insights to current events and personal experiences of the social world.
B. Semester and year this SLO was reported on prior to this cycle.
Spring 2020
C. Describe the assessment method for this SLO.
In class papers (upper division classes) collected during AY 2024-2025
D. Described student group(s) assessed. Provide the number of students or number of artifacts assessed.
14 senior sociology majors
E. Expected proficiency level and proportion of students who should reach this level.
80% of students will demonstrate proficiency earning a minimum score of 1 on all four scored elements and an average score of 2 or higher (rubric below)
F. Assessment results and number of students who met proficiency level.
93% of the students demonstrated proficiency as defined in E.
G. Describe what results indicate about student performance.
The results indicate that seniors in the program meet the department's benchmark for SLO4, critical thinking

H. Describe program level changes/improvements planned for AY 2025-2025 informed by this assessment.

Faculty will continue to examine course content and the assignments in core sociology classes as well as selected elective courses designed to enable students to develop and then reinforce and strengthen their critical thinking skills, as they progress through the major. This includes attention to the students' ability to demonstrate these skills in written work. The sociology program assessment plan will be revised in AY 2025-2026 and a new five-year plan will be adopted.

Enter Table II AY 2025 Assessment Comments Below
Assessment Rubric – Critical Thinking – SLO 4

Criteria for Evaluation	0	1	2	3
The student clearly and comprehensively states the issue to be considered.				
The student effectively evaluates and synthesizes evidence from multiple sources.				
The student clearly and effectively draws conclusions that are well-supported by the available evidence.				
The student demonstrates an ability to evaluate the causes and consequences of historical change and continuity.				

- 0 - Student fails to meet the benchmark.
- 1 - Student achieves minimum standards for meeting the benchmark.
- 2 - Student meets the benchmark without difficulty.
- 3 - Student meets the benchmark, exceeding expectations.