Colorado State University – Pueblo Academic Program Assessment Report for AY 2013-2014

Program: Sociology and Sociology/Criminology BA/BS Date: May 18, 2014

Completed by: Susan Calhoun-Stuber, Chair, Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology

Assessment contributors (other faculty involved in this program's assessment): _____Chris Messer and Jessica Dunham Mardock

Please complete this form for <u>each undergraduate, minor, certificate, and graduate program</u> (e.g., B.A., B.S., M.S.) in your department. Please copy any addenda (e.g., rubrics) and paste them in this document, and submit it to the dean of your college/school as per the deadline established. The dean will forward it to me as an email attachment before June 2, 2014. You'll also find the form at the assessment website at http://www.colostate-pueblo.edu/Assessment/ResultsAndReports/Pages/default.aspx.

Please describe the 2013-2014 assessment activities for the program in Part I. Use Column H to describe improvements planned for 2014-2015 based on the assessment process. In Part II, please describe activities engaged in during 2013-2014 designed to close-the-loop (improve the program) based on assessment activities and the information gathered in 2012-2013. Thank you.

I. Program student learning outcomes (SLOs) assessed in this cycle, processes, results, and recommendations.

A. Which of the	B. When	C. What	D. Who was	E. What is	F. What	G. What were the	H. What
program SLOs	was this	method was	assessed?	the	were the	department's	changes/improvements
were assessed	SLO last	used for	Please fully	expected	results of the	conclusions about	to the <u>program</u> are
during this	assessed?	assessing the	describe the	achievement	assessment?	student	planned based on this
cycle? Please	Please	SLO? Please	student	level and		performance?	assessment?
include the	indicate	include a copy	group(s) and	how many		•	
outcome(s)	the	of any rubrics	the number	or what			
verbatim from	semester	used in the	of students	proportion			
the assessment	and year.	assessment	or artifacts	of students			
plan.		process.	involved.	should be at			
				it?			
SLO #1	SLO #1 -	Two independent	All senior level	90% of senior	78% of the	Results fall below	Reexamine program curriculum,
Students will be able	Spring 2013	readers (sociology	papers written	Sociology	papers were	expectations of senior	and specifically required core
to comprehend and	SLO#3-	faculty) read and	during fall 2013	majors should	scored proficient	level student	courses, in relation to teaching
criticize the major	Not	scored students'	and spring 2014	be proficient on	or exceptional	performance on SLO #1	the major theoretical
theoretical	previously	work; each paper	in an advanced	SLO#1	on SLO #1		perspectives. While we do not
perspectives that	assessed in	was scored as	theory class were				have data (because we used an

Due: June 2, 2014

inform modern sociological and criminological thought. Specifically, students will be able to: a.) show what these perspectives have in common (the sociological perspective) and how they differ (different theoretical approaches), and b.) criticize these different approaches in terms of their explanatory strengths and weaknesses for purposes of understanding what each reveals and what each obscures.	formal annual program assessment SLO #4 - Spring 2013	below, meets, or exceeds expectations. In cases of disagreement, the lower score was the final score given	assessed; the number of papers assessed = 9				alternate method to the MFT this year) that enables us to compare our students to the national mean, we are confident that results obtained this year provide a more accurate assessment of student learning in our program. Still, the results fall below expectations so a task for AY 2014-2015 is to discuss and determine how to improve our curriculum and courses in order to more effectively teach the major theoretical perspectives in sociology and criminology
SLO#3 Students will learn to apply social analysis to substantive social issues and problems, emphasizing crime and deviance, but also including ethnicity, gender, inequality, power, and globalization. Specifically, they will be able to apply sociological and criminological theories and methods to these substantive areas in order to understand social problems, in particular crime and deviance, and		Two independent readers (sociology faculty) read and scored students' work; each paper was scored as below, meets, or exceeds expectations. In cases of disagreement, the lower score was the final score given	All senior level papers written during fall 2013 and spring 2014 in an advanced theory class were assessed; the number of papers assessed = 9	90% of senior Sociology majors should be proficient on SLO#3	100% of the papers were scored proficient or exceptional on SLO #3	Results exceed expectations of senior level student performance on SLO #3	No recommended changes specific to SLO #3

inform crime- related social policy.						
SLO #4 Students will be able to engage in critical thinking about various aspects of social life and organization, including crime and criminal justice institutions.	Two independent readers (sociology faculty) read and scored students' work; each paper was scored as below, meets, or exceeds expectations. In cases of disagreement, the lower score was the final score given	All senior level papers written during fall 2013 and spring 2014 in an advanced theory class were assessed; the number of papers assessed = 9	90% of senior Sociology majors should be proficient SLO#4	67% of the papers were scored proficient or exceptional on SLO #4	Results fall below expectations of senior level student performance on SLO #4	Re-examine program curriculum, and specifically required core courses, in relation to teaching critical thinking and analytic skills in relation to examining social life and organization

Comments:

II. Follow-up (closing the loop) on results and activities from previous assessment cycles. In this section, please describe actions taken during this cycle that were based on, or implemented to address, the results of assessment from previous cycles.

A. What SLO(s)	B. When was this	C. What were the	D. Were the	E. What were the results of the
did you address?	SLO last assessed?	recommendations for change	recommendations for	changes? If the changes were not
Please include	Please indicate the	from the previous	change acted upon? If not,	effective, what are the next steps or
the outcome(s)	semester and year.	assessment?	why?	the new recommendations?
verbatim from				
the assessment				
plan.				
SLO #1 Students will be able to comprehend and criticize the major theoretical perspectives that inform modern sociological and criminological thought. Specifically, students will be able to: a.) show what these perspectives have in common (the sociological perspective) and how	Spring 2013	To consider using alternate assessment tools, rather than rely exclusive on the Sociology MFT	Yes, the recommendations were acted upon during AY 2013-2104.	The change allowed for more accurate assessment of SLO #1 in relation to theoretical perspectives covered in our curriculum; however because the results fell below expectations, we will examine content and assignments in core courses to determine what changes can be implemented in order to more effectively teach comprehension of major theoretical perspective in the discipline.

they differ (different theoretical approaches), and b.) criticize these different approaches in terms of their explanatory strengths and weaknesses for purposes of understanding what each reveals and what each obscures.				
SLO #4 Students will be able to engage in critical thinking about various aspects of social life and organization, including crime and criminal justice institutions.	Spring 2013	To consider using alternate assessment tools, rather than rely exclusive on the Sociology MFT	Yes, the recommendations were acted upon during AY 2013-2104.	The change allowed for accurate assessment of SLO #4 but because the results fell below expectations, we will examine assignments in core courses to determine what changes can be implemented in order to more effectively teach critical thinking skills.

Comments: