

Major Field Assessment Report

Program: Criminal Justice

Academic Year: 2007-08

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose	Program Intended Outcomes	Assessment Method and Criteria	Assessment Results	Use of Results
<p>The Columbus State University Criminal Justice Department is currently in the process of expanding and updating its curriculum in order to raise the standard of professionalism that is rising in the criminal justice system itself. An all-out effort is being made in the criminal justice system to raise the ethical and educational standards that make for a well-rounded practitioner in the field. This Department has been hobbling along for several years now, primarily due to the lack of full-time faculty. As the criminal justice student body has continued to increase, the Department has had to supplement its staff with part-time instructors. We continue to maintain our requirement that our instructors be experts in some specialized field of criminal justice. These practitioners continue to bring with them the increasing standards of</p>	<p>To increase professionalism and educational standards in our criminal justice students in order to provide a better and more well-rounded practitioner in the criminal justice system upon graduation. Departmental learning objectives now include, specifically:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Writing skills 2. Reading comprehension skills 3. Critical thinking abilities 4. Oral communication skills 5. Research skills 6. Professionalism <p>Each criminal justice course will also include course-specific learning objectives that the instructor/professor will be able to measure and analyze.</p>	<p>Beginning in the Fall Semester of 2007, besides the standard course evaluations that students are required to complete for each course and instructor/professor, each course final exam will include course specific “embedded questions” that will assist the instructor/professor and the Department Chair in assessing the accomplishments of our student body toward the course-specific learning objectives as well as the Departmental learning objectives.</p> <p>In the Fall Semester of 2005, the Department proposed a capstone course which all Criminal Justice Seniors will be required to take in order to graduate. This course will be offered beginning in the Fall of 2008.</p> <p>Beginning Fall Semester 2006, all Criminal Justice majors MUST make a “C” or better in their criminal</p>	<p>The Criminal Justice Department Chair has already implemented a trial run of embedded questions in three (3) separate courses offered during the Spring Semester 2005. The results were very telling and extremely disappointing but also showed, very obviously, where further work needs to be done. At the end of the Fall Semester 2007, all criminal justice course finals will include embedded questions specific to that particular subject. All faculty, both part-time and full-time will be made aware of the new procedure and the result we hope to achieve.</p> <p>(New instruments of measurement are currently being considered and previous methods revised. This is a work in progress for the Department.)</p>	<p>The assessment methods this Department has decided on will work well for such a hands-on course of study. The results of the new assessment processes will allow faculty to address the problems encountered immediately and on a one-on-one basis if necessary. Also, the Department Chair will be much more aware of the level of teaching and material provision that is being offered to the student in each criminal justice course. If problems are encountered in this regard, the Department Chair will be able to address the problems immediately and make appropriate changes at once.</p> <p>Once the Senior Capstone Course is implemented, the senior criminal justice student will be responsible for establishing that the knowledge he or she has gathered from this degree area will serve them, the community, and the</p>

<p>professionalism necessary in the criminal justice system today. Our goal is to actively and aggressively aid in this same endeavor.</p>		<p>justice course curriculum or they will be required to re-take the course for credit. The Criminal Justice Department Chair will also be implementing a separate departmental evaluation of all instructors/professors each semester.</p>		<p>criminal justice system well and in a highly professional manner.</p>
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