### Marquette University Learning Assessment Plan

#### Criminology and Law Studies

**Program:** Criminology and Law Studies  
**Degree:** B.A.  
**Date Submitted:** May 8, 2006

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<th>Program Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to…</th>
<th>Performance Indicators</th>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Use of Information</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 1. Understand and critically analyze criminological concepts and theories | Exams and papers in core CRLS theory course will demonstrate understanding of concepts and theories and will provide evidence of critical analytic ability. | Cumulative exams, final, and/or papers for CRLS 155 (Criminological Theory); one section of this course is offered annually.  
- Course instructor will construct an assessment rubric for the course. The rubric will specify the major components/objectives (major “sub-objectives”) of the course that each instructor will address and assess.  
- Course instructor will develop course-specific rubrics to evaluate the cumulative exams, final, and/or papers for the course. The rubrics will identify the important course components and sub-objectives and indicate specific criteria for student demonstrations of different levels of mastery.  
- Each student will be assessed for each component/sub-objective of the course. Assessment will be made using the following levels of mastery: *Exceeds Expectations, Meets Expectations, Does Not Meet Expectations.*  
- Assessment will be conducted in conjunction with assignments and grading of regular course assignments | **Reporting:** Instructor of CRLS 155 will submit a report to the CRLS major committee by the end of academic year (June 30) in the year this objective is assessed. The report will include the following:  
- Percent of students *Exceeding, Meeting, or Failing* to Meet Expectations for each course component/sub-objective  
- A narrative summary of the overall quantitative assessment data  
- Designation of “actions areas” (areas in need of improvement, prioritized)  
- A plan for addressing and improving designated areas  

**Processing:** By Sept. 30th of that year, the CRLS major committee will meet, discuss assessment data and findings, and approve or modify the instructors’ plans for improvement. Recommendations shall be forwarded to instructors by the end of September. The major committee will decide which learning outcome will be assessed in the upcoming year. The CRLS major committee will collect all assessment reports and recommendations and archive them by year in the Department office. At subsequent meetings, the committee will review changes in courses and progress.
2. Understand and critically analyze the organization, culture, and operation of the major institutions of the criminal justice system. The major institutions are:
   - Law enforcement
   - Courts/adjudication
   - Corrections

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<tr>
<th>Exams and papers in core CRLS courses will demonstrate understanding of organization, culture, and operation of criminal justice system components. Critical analytic skills will also be demonstrated.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. For law enforcement, cumulative exams, final, and/or papers for CRLS 157 (Police and Society) and CRLS 159 (Police Organization and Administration)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. For courts/adjudication, cumulative exams, final, and/or papers for CRLS 186 (Criminal Law) and CRLS 187 (Criminal Procedure)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. For corrections: cumulative exams, final, and/or papers for CRLS 156 (Corrections: Prisons, Probation, &amp; Parole)</td>
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CRLS 156, 157, 159, 186, and 187 are required for CRLS majors and one section of each is offered at least annually.

- Course instructors will meet annually to construct an assessment rubric for the course. The rubric will specify the major components/objectives (major “sub-objectives”) of the course that each instructor will address and assess.
- Course instructors will develop course-specific rubrics to evaluate the cumulative exams, final, and/or papers for the course. The rubrics will identify the important course components and sub-objectives and indicate specific criteria for student demonstrations of different levels of mastery.
- Each student will be assessed for each component/sub-objective of the course. Assessment will be made using the following levels of mastery: *Exceeds Expectations, Meets Expectations, Does Not Meet Expectations.*

**Reporting:** Instructors of CRLS 156, 157, 159, 186 and 187 will submit a report to the CRLS major committee by the end of academic year (June 30) in the year this objective is to be assessed. The report will include the following:
- Percent of students *Exceeding, Meeting,* or *Failing* to Meet Expectations for each course component/sub-objective
- A narrative summary of the overall quantitative assessment data
- Designation of “actions areas” (areas in need of improvement, prioritized)
- A plan for addressing and improving designated areas

**Processing:** By Sept. 30th of that year, the CRLS major committee will meet, discuss assessment data and findings, and approve or modify the instructors’ plans for improvement. Recommendations shall be forwarded to instructors by the end of September. The major committee will decide which learning outcome will be assessed in the upcoming year. The CRLS major committee will collect all assessment reports and recommendations and archive them by year in the Department office. At subsequent meetings, the committee will review changes in courses and progress towards objectives. Any changes requiring dept approval will be reported to and discussed at a SOCS Dept meeting.
3. Use an appropriate empirical research method to describe and understand a social issue

Projects in research methods course will demonstrate the ability to use appropriate empirical research methods to describe and understand a social issue.

Major projects in SOCI 104/CRLS104 (Methods of Social/Criminological Research). One section of CRLS 104 is offered each semester, and one section of SOCI 104 is offered annually. Either is required by CRLS, SOCI, and SOWJ majors.

- Course instructors will meet annually to confer about major project, to insure that they are similar across classes. They will construct a general assessment rubric for the project. The rubric will specify the major components/objectives of the project that each instructor will include and assess.
- Course instructors will develop project-specific rubrics to evaluate the agreed-upon components of the projects for their courses. The rubrics will identify the important project components and indicate specific criteria for student demonstrations of different levels of mastery.
- Each student will be assessed for each component/sub-objective of the course. Assessment will be made using the following levels of mastery: Exceeds Expectations, Meets Expectations, Does Not Meet Expectations.
- Each student will be assessed for the overall mastery of the project and the objective of the course. Assessment will be made using the following levels of mastery: Exceeds Expectations, Meets Expectations, Does Not Meet Expectations.

**Reporting:** Instructors of CRLS/SOCI 104 will submit a report to the CRLS, SOWJ and SOCI major committees by the end of academic year (June 30) in the year this objective is assessed. The report will include the following:

- Percent of students *Exceeding, Meeting, or Failing* to Meet Expectations for each project component and the overall research methods objective (complete project)
- A narrative summary of the overall quantitative assessment data
- Designation of “actions areas” (areas in need of improvement, prioritized)
- A plan for addressing and improving designated areas

**Processing:** By Sept. 30th of that year, the CRLS major committee will meet, discuss assessment data and findings, and approve or modify the instructors’ plans for improvement. Recommendations shall be forwarded to instructors by the end of September. The major committee will decide which learning outcome will be assessed in the upcoming year. The CRLS major committee will collect all assessment reports and recommendations and archive them by year in the Department office. At subsequent meetings, the committee will review changes in courses and progress towards objectives. Any changes requiring dept approval will be reported to and discussed at a SOCS Dept meeting.
<table>
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