

Course Outcomes Guide

Directions: Please complete this form to document your progress toward improving student learning. For each item, indicate your progress and your anticipated next steps. Thank you!

Course/Program Title: ADJ-108 Introduction to Homeland Security **Date:** January 8, 2010
Course/Program Team: David T. Yohman

Expected Learning Outcomes

1. The student will be able to explain and discuss terrorism from the historical and global perspective.
2. The student will be able to explain the relationship between the private sector and government in protecting the nation from attack

Assessment (How do or will students demonstrate achievement of each outcome?)

Outcomes 1 and 2 are assessed through (31) multiple choice questions, (6) True/False questions, (6) Short Answer, and (8) Essay questions

Validation (What methods have you used or will you use to validate your assessment?)

The decision to use the questions to assess the student outcomes was through discussions with the MD State Police Executive Director of the State Coordination and Analysis Center, The F.B.I. Supervising Special Agent in Charge of the Baltimore Terrorism Task Force, The MD Army National Guard Civil Support Team Commander and the Commander of the DHHS Assnt Secretary for Preparedness & Response

Results (What do your assessment data show? If you have not yet assessed student achievement of your learning outcomes, when is assessment planned?)

Outcome 1 – 62% of the students who attempted the assessment questions for outcome 1 passed

Outcome 2 – 88% of the students who attempted the assessment questions for outcome 2 passed

Follow-up (How have you used or how will you use the data to improve student learning?)

This is the first time ADJ-108 Introduction to Homeland Security was offered at the college. Assessing the outcome of each of the five written examinations separately I found that the percent passing the examination were 60%, 55%, 72% 80% and 93% respectively. The learning outcomes for the course are not outcomes that I would expect the student was exposed to in their education or life experiences, especially the outcomes for the history of terrorism, Islam and Terrorist methods of operation. The results do indicate that as the student became familiar with the basic information on terrorism, their methods of operation, the functions of the

Department of Homeland Security and the role of the State and Federal government in Homeland Security, the outcome assessment increased from 60% to 93% passing. Upon reflection, there were too many questions to assess student understanding and comprehension especially in regard to material that is foreign to most of the students. In the future I plan to reduce the questions to a more manageable number.

In the final analysis, I am pleased with the student outcomes. I believe the outcomes shows that once the students were exposed to the specific information about terrorism, their methods of operating, their goals and their motivations and how the government and private sector work together to protect the homeland, the percent of students passing increased significantly in the last examination from the first examination.

In preparation for the second-class offering of ADJ-208 in fall of 2010, I plan to meet with the individuals I first consulted to re-assess the material presented and the assessment questions.

Budget Justification (What resources are necessary to improve student learning?)

***It should be noted that this course is an elective and was not taught in Fall 2010 but it is on the schedule for Fall 2011.**