

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-102 American Law Enforcement (Fall_2011)

Date: January 30, 2012

Course/Program Team: Jeff Morgan

Expected Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify and describe the functions of the four (4) levels of law enforcement agencies in the United States. Provide examples (agencies) within each level.
2. Identify and describe the four (4) basic functions of the police.
3. Identify departmental, environmental, and individual factors that have the tendency to influence police discretion.

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

The assessment of outcomes occurs through short answer and essay questions.

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

The decision to use these questions to assess the three outcomes was through discussions with prior criminal justice professors at HCC and current professors at community colleges in the Western Maryland Faculty Group (Garrett, Allegheny, Frederick, and Carroll) and prior and current practitioners in the field of policing. Representatives from county sheriff, municipal, and state police reviewed outcome possibilities and those outcomes selected are identified above.

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 – 21 out of 28 students or 75% provided the correct responses, passing this outcome.

Outcome #2 – 25 out of 28 students or 89% provided the correct responses.

Outcome #3 – 17 out of 28 students or 61% provided the correct responses for this outcome.

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

The difficulty for students in passing Outcome #3 was surprising based on class discussion and scenarios worked through individually and collectively in class. Since this was the first class assessed using the current outcomes no changes will occur within the content of the course material until additional data is gathered. Perhaps the answer lies in the first part of this statement meaning that students are able to recognize what factors need to or are being considered when working through a scenario but unable to fit them into a written response.

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

Nothing additional needed at this point.