

## Course Outcomes Guide

**Course/Program Title:** Criminology SOC-103      **Date:** MAY 2017

**Course/Program Team:** Daniel Beckett Ryan and Daniel Madron

**Expected Learning Outcomes:**

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the basic structure and functions of the main components of the criminal justice system – law enforcement, courts, and corrections.
2. Understand and apply competing sociological and criminological theories to explain the social construction of crime and deviance, the nature and causes of crime, and the social reaction to crime and deviance.
3. Understand the historical components of the criminal justice system, including social, economic, and political variables in the creation of laws and institutions to regulate individual and collective deviant and criminal behaviors.
4. Formulate theoretical and empirical explanations of various social problems associated with the criminal justice system in the United States (i.e. race and class sentencing disparities, recidivism, controversial drug war policies, police-community relations, privatization of prisons, and white collar crime).

**Course restructuring 2015-16**

This course and its curriculum was restructured in 2015 and through 2016 after Daniel Ryan began teaching this class. The course was previously taught by adjuncts and did not have up-to-date SLOA data. All four course outcomes were changed along with the textbooks, modes of delivery (now offered as a hybrid and online), and course objectives being aligned with program objectives.

**Assessment**

The assessment consists of 50 questions covering factual, theoretical, and applied areas of the course and is administered to students at the end of the semester. The assessment constitutes 10% of the overall grade in the course.

**Validation:**

The course outcomes and assessment tool for Criminology (SOC 103) are consistent and aligned with recommendations from the *American Sociological Association's Task Force on College Level Courses* and the "Creating an Effective Assessment Plan for the Sociology Major" guide published by the ASA's *Task Force on Assessing the Undergraduate Sociology Major*.

**Results:**

**It should be noted that SOC-103 was offered as a hybrid during fall 2016 and as an online course during spring 2017. Data does not indicate any significant differences in outcomes based on mode of delivery.**

**Common Assessment Results: Fall 2016**

At the end of the 2016 fall semester, the “Crime and Justice” common assessment was administered to the single hybrid section of SOC 103-01. The overall average score for the “Crime and Justice” quiz was 81.46% (B-). Two students received grades below 70% (unsatisfactory). The sample size was 26 students.

Based on the overall class average of 81% on the common assessment, the results exceeded an average/satisfactory score of 75%.

**Common Assessment Results: Spring 2017**

At the end of the 2017 spring semester, the common assessment was administered to the single online section of SOC 103-01. The overall average score for paper was 84.61% (B). The sample size was 25. Three (3) students received grades below 70%. Six (6) students did not complete the assessment and failed the course; These aforementioned “0” grades are not calculated into the results.

Based on the overall class average of 84.61% on the common assessment, the results exceeded an average/satisfactory score of 75%.

**Follow-up:**

The assessment measure/assignment will not be changed for the upcoming academic year because more comparative data is needed.

Data from the assessment will be collected during the 2017-18 and compared to this academic year.

Adjustments/modifications to the assessment tool will be made in areas where deficiencies are apparent.

**Budget Justification:**

Current resources are adequate