Texas A&M International University
Annual Institutional Effectiveness Review (AIER)

Date Submitted January 31, 2008 - (2007 Report)

Assessment Period Covered (2006)

Academic Program/AES Unit Criminal Justice

Person(s) Preparing Review John Kilburn & Claudia San Miguel

Provide summary of the last cycle's use of results and changes implemented
With the implementation of the TAMIU QEP, we have implemented a writing-intensive capstone course (CRIJ 4321). This course will serve as our primary tool for assessing student writing development. We will now develop a departmentally generated comprehensive exam that will be administered in the CRIJ 4321 Proseminar course. We plan to make this the required Senior Capstone course for all graduating students. Our internship course will now be offered in both the Fall and Spring semesters. The goal is to provide smaller class sizes so that the class instructor may offer more personalized supervision with the interns and their placements.

Section I: Planning and Implementation

Institutional Mission

Texas A&M International University, a Member of The Texas A&M University System, prepares students for leadership roles in their chosen profession in an increasingly complex, culturally diverse state, national, and global society … Through instruction, faculty and student research, and public service, Texas A&M International University embodies a strategic point of delivery for well-defined programs and services that improve the quality of life for citizens of the border region, the State of Texas, and national and international communities.

Academic Program or Administrative/Educational Support Unit Mission

This program addresses the College (COAS) goal of preparing students for a variety of professions and roles by providing a broad-based liberal arts education. Provide a curriculum that teaches current and relevant Criminal Justice material and that facilitates employment in a high-demand field.

Identify outcomes and the relationship to Strategic Plan

Outcome 1   ☒ **Is this outcome related to writing (QEP)?**
Students will demonstrate professional writing in the field of criminal justice.

Identify Strategic Plan Goal related to Outcome 1
Goal 1 Academics

Identify Strategic Plan Objective related to Outcome 1

1.7 Establish and pursue student learning outcomes appropriate for each program with systematic assessment and use of results for continuous quality improvement.

Identify methods of assessment to be used
Program faculty assessment of student senior research papers in CRIJ 4321.

Indicate when assessment will take place
Fall

Criteria/Benchmark
Students will demonstrate appropriate use of relevant peer-reviewed articles to develop theoretical concepts related to one specific contemporary criminal justice issue.

Outcome 2 ☐ **Is this outcome related to writing (QEP)?**
Students will identify and explain the nature of key contemporary issues in the fields of Criminal Justice.

Identify Strategic Plan Goal related to Outcome 2
Goal 1 Academics

Identify Strategic Plan Objective related to Outcome 2
1.7 Establish and pursue student learning outcomes appropriate for each program with systematic assessment and use of results for continuous quality improvement.

Identify methods of assessment to be used
Program faculty will develop a series of paper assignments in the Senior Seminar course demonstrating a basic understanding of the operations of Criminology, Courts, Policing and Corrections.

Indicate when assessment will take place
Spring

Criteria/Benchmark
Students will demonstrate an understanding of basic knowledge in each of the fields of Criminological Theory, Research Methods, Courts and Criminal Procedure, Policing, and Corrections.

Outcome 3 ☐ **Is this outcome related to writing (QEP)?**
To demonstrate an understanding of expectations for Criminal Justice professionals.

Identify Strategic Plan Goal related to Outcome 3
Goal 1 Academics

Identify Strategic Plan Objective related to Outcome 3

1.7 Establish and pursue student learning outcomes appropriate for each program with systematic assessment and use of results for continuous quality improvement.

Identify methods of assessment to be used
Student papers in their internship class critically evaluating their role in their placement.

Indicate when assessment will take place
Fall

Criteria/Benchmark
This research paper will critically analyze contemporary research offering prescriptions of best practices in the professional literature. They will then reflect on the nature of their placement agency to see if, and how, these practices are utilized.

When (term/date) was assessment conducted?
Outcome 1
December, 2007

Outcome 2
will be done in Spring '08

Outcome 3
December, 2007

What were the results attained (raw data)?
Outcome 1
A total of 17 students were reviewed. Zero students performed exemplary in terms of detailed systhesis of concepts in the literature. However, seven students clearly addressed the main concepts and offered a clear critique in their writing. Five students thouroughly addressed the main points adequately. Six students approached the some of the main points of the critique but failed to adequately cover all issues related to the theory. Zero students failed to address some of the points in the literature.

Outcome 2
N/A

Outcome 3
A total of 17 papers were reviewed. Two were considered an exemplary analysis of professional work. Seven demonstrated a clear understand of professional expectations but the critique lacked detail. Seven expressed an adequate understanding of the professional expectations but offered no significant critique. Two papers missed some important aspects of the profession. No student completely missed the primary points.

Who (specify names) conducted analysis of data?
Outcome 1
Claudia San Miguel

Outcome 2
not performed

Outcome 3
Claudia San Miguel

When were the results and analysis shared and with whom (department chair, supervisor, staff, external stakeholders)? Submit minutes with data analysis to assessment@tamiu.edu (Please use Minutes Template located on the Project INTEGRATE web page.)
Enter text here

NOTE: Submit all assessment documentation (i.e., surveys, rubrics, course exams with embedded questions, etc.) to the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Planning.

Use of Results: Indicate whether criteria were met/not met and what changes, if any, have been identified based on the data collected?

Outcome 1
☐ **Met** ☒ **Not Met**
Provide narrative: Six out of seventeen students failed to adequately critique the theories in the professional literature. Students are not performing at a level of critical thinking through reading the literature and writing an analytical essay.

Outcome 2
☐ **Met** ☒ **Not Met**
Provide narrative: N/A

Outcome 3
☒ **Met** ☐ **Not Met**
Provide narrative: Only one student failed to understand the professional expectations. While we hope to raise the scores in the future, the nearly 16 out of 17 students had at least a basic understanding of professional expectations.

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How have these data-based changes improved your program/unit?
We are continuing to monitor the writing of our students and plan to continue faculty discussions about student expectations. Students are clearly interested in the content of the courses, but mechanics of writing must also be addressed. Concepts such as writing focus and paper organization and development are problems. Another issue is the understanding of the professional literature. We will work to see how students may improve reading theoretical concepts with a critical eye.

Section III: Programmatic Review

Are resources affected by the changes identified in Section II? ☐ Yes   ☒ No

If so, specify the effect(s) using the chart below:

Funding	Physical	Other
☐ New resources required	☐ New or reallocated space	☐ Primarily faculty/staff time
☐ Reallocation of current funds		☐ University rule/procedure change only
		☐ Other: Enter text here

Provide a narrative description and justification for requested resources (include linkage to Strategic Plan)
Enter text here

Identify proposed outcomes for the next assessment cycle:
Continuation of present outcome(s) – (Indicate reason for continuation):
New Outcome(s) – (List outcomes below):   Enter text here
Modification of present outcome(s) – (Indicate reason for modification):   Enter text here

**** This section to be completed by dean/director/vice-president ****

Are resources requested a priority for the academic program/AES unit?
☐ **Yes**   ☐ **No**
Comments:
Enter text here

If funding, physical or other resources were requested, what is the impact of the budget decisions on the academic program/AES unit?
Enter text here