

# **Texas A&M International University**

## **Annual Institutional Effectiveness Review (AIER)**

**Date Submitted** January 30, 2007

**Assessment Period Covered (2006)**

**Academic Program/AES Unit** Criminal Justice

**Person(s) Preparing Review** John Kilburn

### **Provide summary of the last cycle's use of results and changes implemented**

Because we only graduate a few MSCJ students each year, data gathered on the program is an ongoing process. However, faculty discussions have led us to focus on core competencies that we consider necessary for demonstrating knowledge and preparation for further graduate study. With regards to curriculum, we have reaffirmed that our required courses (Criminological Theory, Comparative Criminal Justice, Law, and Advanced Research Methods) are appropriate and should make up the core of what is taught and evaluated with regards to student learning. New faculty members have committed to implementing more writing and research papers throughout all courses taught. Because most of our courses for this degree are taught online, students are writing considerably more than they have in the past.

## 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. We provide a curriculum that teaches current and relevant Criminal Justice material and that facilitates employment in a high-demand field. The graduate program teaches advanced skills for those pursuing more knowledge in the field.

### **Identify outcomes and the relationship to Strategic Plan**

#### **Outcome 1**

**Is this outcome related to writing (QEP)?**

Students will demonstrate use of appropriate methods to appraise contemporary criminal justice policies.

**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**

In addition to assessing the students' performance in the Advanced Research Methods course, students will be tested on the appropriate use of research methodology in their comprehensive exams.

**Indicate when assessment will take place**

Fall

**Criteria/Benchmark**

Students will analyze a particular research problem with use of appropriate methodology.

**Outcome 2**

**Is this outcome related to writing (QEP)?**

Students will identify and explain the nature of major theoretical concepts and philosophies in 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**

Comprehensive exam, faculty discussions regarding individual student progress in the Criminological Theory, Comparative Criminal Justice, Law, and Advanced Research Methods courses.

**Indicate when assessment will take place**

Spring

**Criteria/Benchmark**

Students will demonstrate that they can compare and contrast the applicability of each theory in explaining specific phenomenon.

**Outcome 3**

**Is this outcome related to writing (QEP)?**

To demonstrate professional writing skills in Criminal Justice.

**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**

Analysis of exam for Seminar in Criminological Theory, Faculty discussions related to research papers turned in graduate courses.

**Indicate when assessment will take place**

Fall

**Criteria/Benchmark**

Students will devise an application of specific Criminological Theory to contemporary social issues.

## Section II: Analysis of Results

### **When (term/date) was assessment conducted?**

#### **Outcome 1**

December, 2006 and January, 2007

#### **Outcome 2**

December, 2006 and January, 2007

#### **Outcome 3**

December, 2006 and January, 2007

---

### **What were the results attained (raw data)?**

#### **Outcome 1**

contact Dean //While the students are improving in their writing and basic understanding of the appropriate methods used (all passing grades), our general consensus was that the students should cover more material such as data management and demonstrating the ability to carry out a research study on their own.

#### **Outcome 2**

Student Comprehensive exam scores were Spring '06: one failure Concerns were related to organization and development. However, the general understanding of theories are being covered and to some degree, students are utilizing and applying these theories.

#### **Outcome 3**

The overall student grade was a 6.2 on rubric (scale = 0-7.5)

---

### **Who (specify names) conducted analysis of data?**

#### **Outcome 1**

Dean Champion; in consultation with Claudia San Miguel, Durant Frantzen, and John Kilburn

#### **Outcome 2**

Claudia San Miguel, Dean Champion, and Durant Frantzen

#### **Outcome 3**

John Kilburn and Claudia San Miguel consulting with Durant Frantzen and Dean Champion

---

**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](mailto:assessment@tamiu.edu) (Please use Minutes Template located on the [Project INTEGRATE web page.](#))**

Minutes shared January 31, 2007 to CRIJ faculty.

**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:** Enter text here

**Outcome 2**

Met  Not Met

**Provide narrative:** Enter text here

**Outcome 3**

Met  Not Met

**Provide narrative:** Enter text here

---

**How have these data-based changes improved your program/unit?**

Outcome #1: We plan to develop Research Methods as a two-part course. The first course will cover the basics (sampling, theory, and data collection). The second course will require students to carry out their own study through the analysis of data. Outcome # 2: The current comprehensive exam system will continue. Outcome #3: Continue offering Criminological Theory. Stress the utilization of theory. Note that those students with significant professional experience in the field of criminal justice find it easier to apply these theories. Those students with limited professional experience find this task more difficult. Make instructors aware of this.

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
<input type="checkbox"/> New resources required	<input type="checkbox"/> New or reallocated space	<input type="checkbox"/> Primarily faculty/staff time
<input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation of current funds		<input type="checkbox"/> University rule/procedure change only
		<input type="checkbox"/> 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):  
 We plan to continue monitoring all goals in a similar manner. The primary reason is to provide continuity in how we teach and assess student work from baseline scores.

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