

ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR

Master of Science in Criminal Justice (MS) (Thesis and Non-Thesis)
Instructional Degree Program

Spring 2004
Assessment Period Covered

June 30, 2004
Date Submitted

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose Linkage: Institutional Mission Reference:

Texas A&M International University, a Member of The Texas A&M University System, is committed to the preparation of students for leadership roles in their chosen profession and 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 is 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.

College/University Goal(s) Supported: Provide a curriculum that teaches current and relevant Criminal Justice material and that facilitates employment.

Intended Educational (Student) Outcomes:

- 1.** At the end of the program, Master's students will demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical and methodological underpinnings of the field of Criminal Justice and be able to critically evaluate the legal, ethical, and professional (i.e., operational standards) components of the field.
- 2.** Graduates at the Master's level will be prepared for advancement in Criminal Justice jobs.
- 3.** Graduates at the Master's level will be prepared for further graduate study.

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Intended Educational (Student) Outcome:

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1. At the end of the program, Master's students will demonstrate knowledge of the theoretical and methodological underpinnings of the field of Criminal Justice and be able to critically evaluate the legal, ethical, and professional (i.e., operational standards) components of the field.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

1.a. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: Students completing the Criminal Justice Master's Program will take a locally-generated comprehensive examination developed by the Criminal Justice faculty and one outside faculty member in the student's minor and team-graded using a rubric ranging from 1 (poor) to 4 (excellent). The average score on the examination will be "3" or better.

1.a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: The average score on the examination was "3."

1.a. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: The number of students testing was too small to use as the basis for concluding that the program met its goal. In the next year, results of future comprehensive examinations will be compiled with these in order to assess the effectiveness of the graduate program.

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

1.b. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: Subscales that measure the ability to evaluate legal, ethical, and professional components of the field will be included in the comprehensive examination. On no subscale will the average score fall below "3".

1.b. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: The average score on each subscale was "3." A total of four (4) graduate students received a Master of Science in Criminal Justice Degree in Spring 2004.

1.b. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: The number of students testing was too small to use as the basis for concluding that the goal was achieved. Results of future comprehensive examinations and subscales will be considered together with these in assessing the effectiveness of the graduate program. As of June 2004, there were a total of 14 Master of Science degrees granted since Spring 2003.

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2. Graduates at the Master's level will be prepared for advancement in Criminal Justice jobs.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

2.a. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: Four (4) graduates of Spring 2004 will be surveyed in one year to assess how many have advanced in Criminal Justice jobs. At least 50% of these graduates will have advanced in their respective positions.

2.a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: Surveys will be done Summer 2005.

2.a. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: N/A

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

2.b. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: Graduating Master's students will be surveyed to determine whether they believe the program has prepared them for advancement in Criminal Justice jobs. At least 80% of these graduates will strongly agree or agree that the program has prepared them for **advancement**.

2.b. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: 50% of the Master's students strongly agreed and 50% agreed that the program prepared them

for advancement in Criminal Justice jobs.

2.b. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: The number of Master's graduates is too small to use as the basis for concluding that we have met our goal. Future Master's graduates will be asked this question and the data will be compiled until the number of responses is at least 30. Only 14 Master of Science Degrees in Criminal Justice were granted since Spring 2003.

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3. Graduates at the Master's level will be prepared for further graduate study.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

3.a. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: Acceptance rates of TAMIU Criminal Justice Master's graduates into Ph.D. or other further graduate study will be gathered. The acceptance rates of these students will be at least 50% of those applying.

3.a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: No Spring 2004 Master's graduates have applied for further graduate work to date. There were four (4) graduates in Spring 2004.

3.a. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: N/A

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

3.b. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: Master's graduates in Criminal Justice and who have entered advanced degree programs will be surveyed in one year to gather supporting data concerning whether the M.S. degree in Criminal Justice prepared them for further graduate study. The responses will be measured on a Likert scale ranging from "1" (not at all) to "5" (very well). At least 80% of those responding will agree that the Master's Degree in Criminal Justice prepared them well for

graduate programs.

3.b. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: No data as yet. Surveys will be distributed in Summer 2005.

3.b. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: Because there are no data for this means of assessment until 2005, program faculty cannot make any recommendations at this time.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

SOURCE	LOCATION/Special Instructions

