

Example: What program will you work on today?

Enter the Program Name: B.S. in Justice and Policy Studies

Baker State University Mission Statement. The mission of Baker State University is to provide a high quality education, with a strong emphasis on teaching excellence, research, and service to our local, regional, national, and global communities.

School of Public Administration Mission Statement. The School of Public Administration (SPA) prepares students for public service careers in the not-for-profit and public sectors. The school strives to uphold the highest ideals of ethical and responsible public service and seeks to produce public leaders and managers who will exemplify those values in their professional practice. The administration and faculty of the School are committed to teaching, research and social engagement that support and serve our local, regional, national, and global communities.

Department of Justice Administration Mission Statement. The Department of Justice Administration (JA) prepares students for professional careers in criminal justice, social justice and other law-related fields. The JA department provides its students a comprehensive and multidisciplinary education in the social, behavioral, historic, legal, and administrative aspects of the American system of justice. At the core of each JA academic program, is the study and application of ethics-based decision making so that graduates are prepared to serve as ethical and responsible practitioners at the local, regional, or national levels in their chosen careers.

Bachelor of Science in Justice and Policy Studies Program Mission Statement. The mission of the BS in Justice and Policy Studies program is to educate the justice system's future leaders, policy makers, and practitioners. The BS JPS program provides a high-quality education in the history and foundations of the American system of justice as well as the current legal, social, ethical, and administrative skills necessary in an increasingly complex society. BS JPS graduates are prepared for further study at the graduate level or in law school, or for employment in the justice profession as researchers, administrators, or law enforcement officers.

Exercise I – Example: Review your mission statements

Does the School of Public Administration Mission Statement support the BSU Mission?

We believe that the SPA mission statement supports the BSU mission. It closely matches the emphasis on “service to our local, regional, national, and international communities.” The SPA mission also emphasizes a commitment to teaching and research, which are part of the University’s mission.

Note: as I responded to this question, I also underlines the relevant phrases in the BSU mission.

Does the Justice Administration Department mission statement support the School of Public Administration mission statement?

The JA mission statement supports SPA Mission Statement very well. It specifically mentions the preparation of students for public and non-profit careers, the emphasis on ethical standards, and the goal of producing ethical and responsible public leaders, and service to local, regional, national, and global communities.

Note: as I responded to this question, I also underlined the relevant phrases in SPA mission. The JA mission seems to give greater emphasis to some elements of the SPA mission than to other elements. That’s OK; remember that if you review the mission statements of other departments in the School of Public Administration, you’ll probably find that each one gives particular emphasis to those mission elements most related to the department’s specific purpose. You will also expect to find that, overall, the SPA departments support the SPA mission.

Does the BS in Justice and Policy Studies Mission Statement support the JA Department Mission Statement?

The BS JPS Mission Statement supports the elements of the JA Mission Statement very well. It refers to the study of the American justice system, ethics, and preparation for graduate study or employment in a variety of related fields. Some areas that are not specifically stated in the program mission statement can be inferred, however.

Note that as I responded to this question, I also underlines the relevant phrases in the JA mission. The JPS mission seems to give greater emphasis to some elements of the JA mission than to other elements. That’s OK; remember that if you review the mission statements of other programs in the JA department, you’ll probably find that each one gives particular emphasis to those mission elements most related to the program’s specific-purpose. You will also expect to find that, overall, the JS programs support the SPA mission.

Exercise I – Your Turn: Review your mission statements

Enter the Program Name: _____

Texas A&M International University Mission Statement. Texas A&M International University (TAMIU), a Member of The Texas A&M University System, prepares students for leadership roles in an increasingly complex, culturally diverse state, national, and global society. TAMIU provides a learning environment built on a solid academic foundation in the arts and sciences. The University offers a range of baccalaureate and master's programs and the Doctor of Philosophy degree in International Business Administration. In addition, the University pursues a progressive agenda for global study and understanding across all disciplines. Through instruction, faculty and student research, and public service, TAMIU improves the quality of lives for citizens of the border region, the State of Texas, and national and international communities.

College of Arts and Sciences Mission Statement. Our academic mission is to prepare students to think critically and communicate effectively, as well as to ready them to become leaders in their communities and in their chosen fields. Our goals are to: (1) establish and enhance academic programs to meet the needs of a changing global society, (2) expand and enhance international experiences, including international study abroad experiences and research opportunities for our students, and (3) cultivate an appreciation of international philosophies and cultures.

Department of Social Sciences Mission Statement. The mission of the Department of Social Sciences is to provide our students with the theoretical, empirical and/or substantive knowledge in their respective discipline, to provide them with a diversity of approaches, and to instill in them a desire for lifelong learning. Our programs prepare students to:

- Think critically and communicate effectively
- Increase their knowledge base and appreciate the global nature of their world
- Participate actively in their education through collaboration with faculty in research and professional activities
- Become involved as leaders in their communities
- Pursue postgraduate and professional degrees in a variety of fields

Your Program Mission Statement:

Take a minute to review the mission statements for your institution and for your department. Do you believe that your department's mission statement supports the institutional mission? Very well? Somewhat? Not very well? You may want to underline or mark up those parts of the institutional mission statement that you believe are supported by your department's mission statement. Use the space below to record your thoughts about how well institutional mission statement and your department's mission statement, and any gaps you noticed.

Does your department's mission statement support the institutional mission statement?

Return to the department mission statement and underline or mark up those parts that are supported by your program mission statement. Do you believe that you program mission statement supports your department's mission statement? Very well? Somewhat? Not very well? Use the space below to record your thoughts about the relationship between your department's mission statement and your program mission statement, and any gaps you noticed.

Does your program mission statement support the department's mission statement?

If you are unsatisfied with the degree to which any of your mission statements support those above them, you may want to initiate a later conversation with your colleagues.