

Criminal Justice Undergraduate Program: Assessment Plan

The criminal justice capstone course (CJ 490) is required of all students and provides assessment opportunities for all students. In addition to other course assignments, the course will implement the following assessment-oriented activities:

1. **Criminal Justice Agency Presentation:** focus of the presentation is on history and development, goals and mission, agency structure and resources, overview of general activities and policies, and current activities.
2. **Curriculum Content Analysis:** this activity focuses on the 6 program learning outcomes for the Department to review students' knowledge, retention, and integration therein of course-specific student learning outcomes. Students are asked to (1) indicate all courses within the core curriculum they have completed and (2) write down at least 8 items that they have retained in terms of knowledge within the overall area.
3. **Interview of Criminal Justice Agency Professional:** students are asked to develop an interview instrument with questions germane to the field in which the agency professional they have selected works. Students will conduct the interview either in-person or via phone and will present the agency professional's responses in class and provide an overview/summary of the interview and the interview process.
4. **Contemporary Research Paper on Criminal Justice Agency:** this 15-20 page paper focuses on a selected agency's history and development, goals and mission, agency structure and resources, and an overview of general activities and policies. The research paper should also include a section on the agency's current activities, efforts, and successes/obstacles.
5. **Exit Assessment Instruments:** at the conclusion of the course, students will complete the following: (1) exit assessment exam, (2) student feedback instrument, and (3) Marianist educational values instrument.

Below are the rubrics for each of the assessment activities (still in development)

Assessment Activity	Criteria for Acceptability
Criminal Justice Agency Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of selected criminal justice agency • Discussion and presentation of focus areas: history and development, goals and mission, agency structure and resources, overview of general activities and policies, and current activities. • PowerPoint slides and/or outline of presentation. • <i>Grading: Identification (5%), Discussion and presentation of focus areas (70%), PowerPoint slides and/or outline of presentation (25%)</i> • <i>Grading will be conducted by the instructor in addition to student evaluations of their peers.</i>

Assessment Activity	Criteria for Acceptability
Curriculum Content Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed statements for all courses that the student has taken (8 per course). • Accuracy of statements. • <i>Grading: completeness (50%), Accuracy (50%)</i> • <i>Grading for completeness will be conducted by the instructor. Grading for accuracy will be conducted by full-time faculty who teach the specific courses.</i>
Interview of Criminal Justice Agency Professional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of survey instrument germane to criminal justice agency professional's field. • Typed responses to specific questions, including overview/summary of interview and interview process. • Discussion of interview in-class. • <i>Grading: development of survey instrument (30%), typed responses to questions, overview/summary (50%), and discussion of interview in-class (20%).</i> • <i>Grading will be conducted by the instructor for the course.</i>
Contemporary Research Paper on Criminal Justice Agency	<p><u>Quality of Research</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identified and discussed the following: agency's history and development, goals and mission, agency structure and resources, and an overview of general activities and policies, including a section on the agency's current activities, efforts, and successes/obstacles. • Provided an analytical conclusion the final section of the paper (e.g., policy implications, allocation of resources, etc.) <p><u>Clarity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effectively uses language • Transitions lead to change of subject • Coherent use of resources • Appropriate citation • Paper must have a minimum of seven current citations <p><u>Grammar and Mechanics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The paper is generally sound in terms of grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure • The paper is generally sound in terms of spelling errors <p><u>Structure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper includes the following: title page, table of contents, subject headers, and reference section • Paper meets minimum page length (15 pages) • <i>Grading: quality of research (50%), clarity (20%), grammar and mechanics (15%), structure (15%).</i> • <i>Grading will be conducted by the instructor for the course.</i>
Exit Assessment Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of the exit exam
Student Feedback Instrument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of the instrument
Marianist educational values instrument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of the instrument