

Criminal Justice Graduate Program: Assessment Plan

Assessment on the graduate level takes place in MSCJA 790 Survey of Research Methods and Statistics. All graduate students are required to take this course. Graduate assessment has three components:

- Direct assessment (multiple choice exit assessment instrument)
- Indirect assessment (Survey of student satisfaction & self-assessed knowledge and/or competence)
- Portfolio (contents described below)

In addition to other course assignments, the course will implement the following assessment-oriented activities for the portfolio and direct/indirect assessments:

1. **Survey Research Paper:** this paper is a research report based on the student's survey research project. The project will focus on a criminal justice issue and will focus on: (1) form or structure of the content, deemed appropriate for journal publications; (2) coverage of the literature in the field or topic area; (3) research design, to include measurement considerations, sampling, data analysis and interpretation; and (4) a conclusion that ties the research findings to the research hypothesis or research questions, and theory.

This portion of the portfolio addresses the program outcome of 'Formulating plans for research so that this research may be applied in the operation of the agencies of criminal justice.'

2. **Case Study:** this activity involves examining a case and identifying all the relevant constitutional issues, the legality of any arrests (detentions), and the admissibility of any evidence seized.

This portion of the portfolio addresses the program outcome of 'The basic rights guaranteed to each individual by both state and federal constitutions and laws.'

3. **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
Survey Research Paper	<p><u>Quality of Research</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper form or structure of the content, deemed appropriate for journal publications • Adequate coverage of the literature in the field or topic area • Appropriateness of research design, including measurement considerations, sampling, data analysis and interpretation • Formation of conclusion that tie the research findings to the research hypothesis or research questions and theory. <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 <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 (to be determined) <p>• <i>Grading criteria: Specific breakdown still in development.</i></p> <p>• <i>Grading will be conducted by the instructor of the course..</i></p>
Case Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific case study is attached. • <i>Assessment Rubric: attached</i> • <i>Grading will be conducted by appropriate faculty (e.g., expertise in the area). Inter-rater reliability training will be conducted if more than one faculty are involved in the assessment of this activity..</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

Case Study

Police arrive at a home with a valid arrest warrant for the arrest of one John Doe for armed robbery committed with an accomplice. Mr. Doe and his brother both live at the residence. They enter the premises through an open door announcing their presence and purpose prior to entry. They find John Doe sitting on a recliner watching television. One officer places Mr. Doe against the wall and begins to pat him down when a noise from another room draws the attention of both officers. The non-searching officer follows the sound into a bedroom where he looks under the bed and sees a large transparent plastic bag that appears to be full of marijuana. The officer seizes the bag. He continues his search of the bedroom opening the bathroom door. An examination of the interior of the bathroom discloses a male hiding in the bathtub behind the shower curtain. The second suspect is taken into the living room and patted down. An examination of the recliner discloses a bag of reefer, powder cocaine, and a pistol, all are seized. Mr. Doe breaks away from the police and escapes the building. Before the police can catch him he manages to get his car started and a pursuit ensues with one officer in pursuit. A roadblock is established and the fleeing suspect gives himself up upon which he is taken into custody and the interior of the automobile is searched revealing drugs and weapons under the passenger seat and in the glove compartment. Both suspects are arrested and booked. The vehicle is impounded and the entire vehicle is inventoried. When police get to the trunk they discover a machine gun which is seized and the inventory ended.

There are 13 identifiable issues each one carries a value of seven points. For each issue missed a deduction of seven points will be made.

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

Case Study Rubric

13 identifiable issues

1. illegally seized suspect #1
 - a. illegally seized handgun
 - b. illegally seized crack
2. Legally seized suspect #2
 - a. Search incident to arrest
 - i. Legally seized marijuana
 - ii. Legally seized powder cocaine
 - iii. Legally seized pistol
 - b. Escape
 - i. Acquiescence (probable cause)
 - ii. Search incident to arrest in an auto
 1. legally seized drugs
 2. legally seized weapons
 - c. Inventory
 - i. Standard in policy and procedure
 1. stopped the inventory upon finding of contraband suggests a search rather than an inventory