

Program Assessment Plan
 American University
 Academic Program: CAS: Sociology - MA

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Unit's Primary Department: Sociology

Learning Outcome: Theory

Students will demonstrate a command of sociological theories and their relevance to the research area.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

Start Date: 11/05/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
A comprehensive examination that evaluates the learning and application of theory and methods, as well as their integration. Note: The graduate assessment model currently focuses on outcomes after year 1 of the program. In faculty discussions planned for the next several months, we will determine additional measures and related outcomes for assessing year 2. Excellent: Demonstrates a strong command of the objective, and an ability to critically challenge the material. Acceptable: Demonstrates a strong command of the objective. Weak: Demonstrates a superficial, weak, or uneven command of the objective. Unacceptable: Does not demonstrate a command of the objective. Measure Type: Quiz/ Exam	100% of MA students will complete the exam (to be utilized in the assessment) every year, with an excellent or acceptable rating in each of the 3 learning outcomes.	Data are collected once a year and reviewed by a team of two faculty members, both part of the graduate studies committee.	Yes
Faculty meeting(s) to discuss implications of the results of the assessment for the graduate program and the feasibility and relevance of learning objectives. Faculty will discuss results of the assessment and what they indicate about the strengths and areas in need of development for our graduate students and our graduate program. Measure Type: Other	No target identified.	One annual faculty meeting for all faculty to provide feedback.	Yes

Learning Outcome: Logic of Research

Students will demonstrate facility in the logic and reasoning of social research, data collection, and data analysis.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

Start Date: 11/05/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
A comprehensive examination that evaluates the learning and application of theory and methods, as well as their integration. Note: The graduate assessment model currently focuses on outcomes after year 1 of the program. In faculty discussions planned for the next several months, we will determine additional measures and related outcomes for assessing year 2. Excellent: Demonstrates a strong command of the objective, and an ability to critically challenge the material. Acceptable: Demonstrates a strong command of the objective. Weak: Demonstrates a superficial, weak, or uneven command of	100% of MA students will complete the exam (to be utilized in the assessment) every year, with an excellent or acceptable rating in each of the 3 learning outcomes.	Data are collected once a year and reviewed by a team of two faculty members, both part of the graduate studies committee.	Yes

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
<p>the objective. Unacceptable: Does not demonstrate a command of the objective. Measure Type: Quiz/ Exam</p>			
<p>Faculty meeting(s) to discuss implications of the results of the assessment for the graduate program and the feasibility and relevance of learning objectives. Faculty will discuss results of the assessment and what they indicate about the strengths and areas in need of development for our graduate students and our graduate program. Measure Type: Other</p>	No target identified.	One annual faculty meeting for all faculty to provide feedback.	Yes

Learning Outcome: Integrate Theory and Methods

Students will demonstrate an ability to integrate both theory and methods.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

Start Date: 11/05/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
<p>A comprehensive examination that evaluates the learning and application of theory and methods, as well as their integration. Note: The graduate assessment model currently focuses on outcomes after year 1 of the program. In faculty discussions planned for the next several months, we will determine additional measures and related outcomes for assessing year 2. Excellent: Demonstrates a strong command of the objective, and an ability to critically challenge the material. Acceptable: Demonstrates a strong command of the objective. Weak: Demonstrates a superficial, weak, or uneven command of the objective. Unacceptable: Does not demonstrate a command of the objective. Measure Type: Quiz/ Exam</p>	100% of MA students will complete the exam (to be utilized in the assessment) every year, with an excellent or acceptable rating in each of the 3 learning outcomes.	Data are collected once a year and reviewed by a team of two faculty members, both part of the graduate studies committee.	Yes
<p>Faculty meeting(s) to discuss implications of the results of the assessment for the graduate program and the feasibility and relevance of learning objectives. Faculty will discuss results of the assessment and what they indicate about the strengths and areas in need of development for our graduate students and our graduate program. Measure Type: Other</p>	No target identified.	One annual faculty meeting for all faculty to provide feedback.	Yes