

Criminal Justice [BS] [CJUS]

Cycles included in this report:

Jun 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018

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Program Name: Criminal Justice [BS] [CJUS]

Reporting Cycle: Jun 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018

1 Is this program offered via Distance Learning?

100% Traditional or less than 50% Distance/Traditional

2 Is this program offered at an off-site location?

No

2.1 If yes to previous, provide addresses for each location where 50% or more of program credits may be earned.

3 Example of Program Improvement

2017-2018:

New courses have been developed and offered to keep the program contemporary and in line with similar programs throughout the nation.

- CJUS 310 Ethics & Criminal Justice
 - There was no ethics course. This is an important component for assuring effectiveness, efficiency, and public trust in improving public safety.
 - Enrollment in the ethics course has been significant and student satisfaction has been high.
- CJUS 492 Police Academy Certification
 - This course allowed us to include the law enforcement community in attaining educational success. Educated criminal justice practitioners are more successful than those without.
 - Many SWLA criminal justice practitioners have a degree from McNeese.

Furthermore, based upon the actual data from previous assessments, we have made a decision to use rubrics in future assessments to help us assess where improvements can be made in our various student learning outcomes.

4 Program Highlights from the Reporting Year

2016-2017:

This program continues to graduate large numbers of majors, almost all of whom find employment in their area of interest both within and without the criminal justice system at large. In short, our students are being actively recruited by local agencies.

2017-2018:

There are recruiting efforts to get local criminal justice practitioners to complete the degree and form a partnership with McNeese. In 2018 and planned for 2019, a Criminal Justice professor from McNeese is now teaching at the local police academy and actively engaging practitioners to complete a degree at McNeese.

5 Program Mission

The BS in Criminal Justice improves public safety through education and provides graduates with knowledge of police, courts, and corrections.

6 Institutional Mission Reference

Provides evidence-based academic foundation for practitioners.

7 Assessment and Benchmark CJUS 231 Final Exam

Assessment: CJUS 231 Final Exam.

Benchmark: 70% of students will earn a score of 80% or higher on the CJUS 231 final exam.

Course Links

CJUS231 [Criminology (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]

Outcome Links

Criminal Conduct, Law, and Procedure [Program]

Students will be able to analyze criminal conduct and apply criminal law and procedure.

7.1 Data

Traditional Program:

Academic Year	Students earning 80% or higher	
	#	%
2017-2018	9/24	37.5%

Online Program:

Academic Year	Students earning 80% or higher	
	#	%
2017-2018	4/10	40%

Course Links

CJUS231 [Criminology (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]

7.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement

2016-2017:

This is a new assessment. Data tracking will begin in the 2017-2018 academic year.

2017-2018:

The initial tracking of the assessment data associated with the Final Exam in CJUS 231 reveals that we have not met the benchmark of "70% of students will earn a score of 80% or higher on the CJUS 231 final exam". Furthermore, an analysis of the empirical data shows that there is not a significant difference between the traditional and online CJUS 231 final exam scores. Finally, a decision has been made to revise the CJUS 231 final exam in an effort to come closer to meeting the aforementioned benchmark figure for this assessment item.

Course Links

CJUS231 [Criminology (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]

8 Assessment and Benchmark CJUS 231 Term paper

Assessment: CJUS 231 Term Paper.

Benchmark: 70% of students will earn a score of 80% or higher on the CJUS 231 term paper.

Files: See list of attachments to view. (Requires Adobe Reader or compatible viewer).

GRADING RUBRIC FOR CJUS 231

Course Links

CJUS231 [Criminology (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]

Outcome Links

Writing [Program]

Graduates demonstrate effective written communication skills.

8.1 Data [Approved]

Traditional Program:

Academic Year	Students earning 80% or higher	
	#	%

	#	%
2017-2018	–	90%
2018-2019		

Online Program:

Academic Year	Students earning 80% or higher	
	#	%
2017-2018	–	–
2018-2019		

Course Links

CJUS231 [Criminology (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]**8.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement**

2016-2017:

This is a new assessment. Data tracking will begin in the 2017-2018 academic year. Based upon an analysis of the data collected from the term paper requirement in CJUS 231, strengths and weaknesses will be identified, and strategic decisions will be made as to what steps need to be taken to enhance the students' skills to communicate effectively in a written way. A rubric will be utilized to help us assess where improvements can be made in this student learning outcome.

2017-2018:

An analysis of the empirical data for the Term Paper in CJUS 231 reveals that the benchmark of "70% of students will earn a score of 80% or higher" was met. Based upon the scoring rubric used for this course requirement (see attachment), the majority of students (90%) scored above 80% on the term paper essay. In this particular vein, students exhibited the ability to present the subject matter of their response in a logical, clear, and specific way. Likewise, it is evident that students were able to couch their answer within the parameters of the proper APA formatting guidelines. After analyzing the performance on this assessment, it is recommended that the degree of difficulty of the term paper requirement in CJUS 231 be adjusted. In this particular vein, the modification of this present assignment should elevate the critical thinking skills of the student population, while also achieving the goal of creating the opportunity to improve the written communication skills of the students enrolled in CJUS 231.

Course Links

CJUS231 [Criminology (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]**9 Assessment and Benchmark CJUS 252 Final Exam**

Assessment: CJUS 252 Final Exam.

Benchmark: 70% of students will earn a score of 80% of higher on the CJUS 252 final exam.

Course Links

CJUS252 [Criminal Law (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]

Outcome Links

Criminal Conduct, Law, and Procedure [Program]

Students will be able to analyze criminal conduct and apply criminal law and procedure.

9.1 Data [Not Approved]

Traditional Program:

	Students earning 80% or higher

Academic Year	#	%
2017-2018	–	–
2018-2019		

Online Program:

Academic Year	Students earning 80% or higher	
	#	%
2017-2018	–	–
2018-2019		

Course Links

CJUS252 [Criminal Law (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]**9.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement**

2016-2017:

This is a new assessment. Based upon an analysis of the data collected from the final exam in CJUS 252, strengths and weaknesses will be identified, and strategic decisions will be made as to what steps need to be taken to enhance the students' ability to analyze criminal conduct and to apply criminal law and procedure. An analysis of the final exam scores will be conducted to help us assess where improvements can be made in this student learning outcome.

2017-2018:

There was a significant increase in test scores.

Continuous improvement: Student access to course materials is limited due to high text book prices. Students are now provided with text books at no charge due to a partnership with a local law enforcement agency. The test scores are currently satisfactory. The professor will increase the rigor of the test with a review of current test questions.

Course Links

CJUS252 [Criminal Law (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]**10 Assessment and Benchmark CJUS 310 Final Project**

Assessment: CJUS 310 Final Paper.

Benchmark: 70% of students will earn a score of 80% or higher on the CJUS 310 final project.

Course Links

CJUS310 [Ethics in Criminal Justice (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]

Outcome Links

Leadership [Program]

Students will apply leadership theories and methods to criminal justice environments.

10.1 Data [Approved]

Traditional Program:

Academic Year	Students earning 80% or higher	
	#	%
2017-2018	–	100%
2018-2019		100%

Online Program:

Academic Year	Students earning 80% or higher	
	#	%
2017-2018	–	–
2018-2019		

Course Links

CJUS310 [Ethics in Criminal Justice (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]**10.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement**

2016-2017:

This is a new assessment. Based upon an analysis of the data collected from the final paper requirement in CJUS 310, strengths and weaknesses will be identified, and strategic decisions will be made as to what steps need to be taken to enhance the students' ability to apply leadership theories and methods to criminal justice environments. A rubric will be utilized to help us assess where improvements can be made in this student learning outcome.

2017-2018:

The objectives were met. The current method is participation results in full credit. A grading rubric is to be developed to make the project more challenging and relevant in criminal justice ethical applications.

Course Links

CJUS310 [Ethics in Criminal Justice (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]**11 Assessment and Benchmark CJUS 352 Final Exam**

Assessment: CJUS 352 Final Exam.

Benchmark: 70% of students will earn a score of 80% of higher on the CJUS 352 final exam.

Course Links

CJUS352 [Crime and Jurisdiction (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]

Outcome Links

Criminal Conduct, Law, and Procedure [Program]

Students will be able to analyze criminal conduct and apply criminal law and procedure.

11.1 Data [Approved]

Traditional Program:

Academic Year	Students earning 80% or higher	
	#	%
2017-2018	–	46%
2018-2019		92%

Online Program:

Academic Year	Students earning 80% or higher	
	#	%
2017-2018	–	–
2018-2019		

Course Links**CJUS352 [Crime and Jurisdiction (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]****11.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement**

2016-2017:

This is a new assessment. Based upon an analysis of the data collected from the final exam in CJUS 352, strengths and weaknesses will be identified, and strategic decisions will be made as to what steps need to be taken to enhance the students' ability to analyze criminal conduct and to apply criminal law and procedure. An analysis of the final exam scores will be conducted to help us assess where improvements can be made in this student learning outcome.

2017-2018:

The objectives were met.

Continuous improvement: Student access to course materials is limited due to high text book prices. Students are now provided with text books at no charge due to a partnership with a local law enforcement agency. The test scores are currently satisfactory. The professor will increase the rigor of the test with a review of current test questions.

Course Links**CJUS352 [Crime and Jurisdiction (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]****12 Assessment and Benchmark CJUS 432 Final Project**

Assessment: CJUS 432 Final Project.

Benchmark: 70% of students will earn a score of 80% or higher on the CJUS 432 final exam.

Course Links**CJUS432 [Criminal Justice Administration and Management (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]****Outcome Links****Leadership [Program]**

Students will apply leadership theories and methods to criminal justice environments.

12.1 Data [Approved]

Traditional Program:

Academic Year	Students earning 80% or higher	
	#	%
2017-2018	–	87%
2018-2019		100%

Online Program:

Academic Year	Students earning 80% or higher	
	#	%
2017-2018	–	–
2018-2019		

Course Links**CJUS432 [Criminal Justice Administration and Management (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]****12.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement**

2016-2017:

This is a new assessment. Based upon an analysis of the data collected from the final paper requirement in CJUS 432, strengths and weaknesses will be identified, and strategic decisions will be made as to what steps need to be taken to enhance the students' ability to apply leadership theories and methods to criminal justice environments. A rubric will be utilized to help us assess where improvements can be made in this student learning outcome.

2017-2018:

The objectives were met.

Continuous improvement: The test scores are currently satisfactory. The professor will increase the rigor of the test with a review of current test questions.

Course Links

CJUS432 [Criminal Justice Administration and Management (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]

13 Assessment and Benchmark CJUS 461 Research Paper [Approved]

Assessment: CJUS 461 Research Paper. Students will demonstrate effective writing skills by completing a research paper in their major.

Benchmark: 85% of students will earn a score of 80% or higher on their research paper in their major for CJUS 461.

Course Links

CJUS461 [Special Topics in Criminal Justice (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]

Outcome Links

Writing [Program]

Graduates demonstrate effective written communication skills.

13.1 Data [Approved]

Academic Year	% of students that earned 80% or higher
2013-2014	N/A
2014-2015	N/A
2015-2016	99%

Traditional Program:

Academic Year	Students earning 80% or higher	
	#	%
2016-2017	21/22	95.5%
2017-2018	–	98%
2018-2019		

Online Program:

Academic Year	Students earning 80% or higher	
	#	%
2016-2017	5/5	100%
2017-2018	–	98%
2018-2019		

Course Links**CJUS461 [Special Topics in Criminal Justice (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]****13.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement**

2016-2017:

Earlier students used SOCL 320 (methods) to demonstrate effective writing. This requirement was changed to CJUS 461 (special topics) to more appropriately reflect end of program achievement in the student's discipline. Based upon the results of this student learning outcome, we have decided to take a step to analyze the strengths and weaknesses of the students' work on this research paper. A rubric will be developed to help us assess where improvements can be made in this student learning outcome.

2017-2018:

Data reported will be research paper grades, not overall course grades.

Continuous improvement: An assignment rubric should be developed with specific objectives to assist in evaluating outcomes for the course.

Course Links**CJUS461 [Special Topics in Criminal Justice (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]****14 Assessment and Benchmark SOSC 499 Capstone Assignments**

Assessment: SOSC 499 Capstone Assignments. Students will successfully develop a prospectus for future research as their capstone assignment.

Benchmark: 70% of students will earn a score of 80% or higher on the SOSC 499 capstone assignment.

Prior to 2016-2017, the benchmark was that 100% of students will successfully earn a B or better.

Files: See list of attachments to view. (Requires Adobe Reader or compatible viewer).

GRADING RUBRIC FOR SOSC 499

Course Links**SOSC499 [Senior Research Seminar Capstone Experience (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]****Outcome Links****Critical Thinking [Program]**

Graduates apply critical thinking in academic and professional environments.

Writing [Program]

Graduates demonstrate effective written communication skills.

14.1 Data [Approved]

Academic Year	# of students that earned a B or higher in Fall	# of students that earned a B or higher in Spring	% of students that earned a B or higher
2013-2014	–	–	91%
2014-2015	–	–	80%
2015-2016	43	26	98%

Traditional Program:

Academic Year	Students earning 80% or higher	
	#	%
2016-2017	–	100%

2017-2018	–	97%
2018-2019		

Online Program:

Academic Year	Students earning 80% or higher	
	#	%
2016-2017	–	93%
2017-2018	–	97%
2018-2019		

Course Links

SOSC499 [Senior Research Seminar Capstone Experience (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]**14.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement**

2016-2017:

This is a new assessment. Data tracking will begin in the 2017-2018 academic year. Based upon an analysis of the data collected from the capstone assignment in SOSC 499, strengths and weaknesses will be identified, and strategic decisions will be made as to what steps need to be taken to enhance the students' skills to communicate effectively in a written way. A rubric will be utilized to help us assess where improvements can be made in this student learning outcome.

Only one student earned a grade of C each semester of the reporting period. This is primarily because they did not turn in all of the required materials on a timely basis. In the future the data collected will be the grade of the assignment, not the course grade. Also the data will only include CJUS students.

2017-2018:

The current benchmark was virtually met. The current plan is to begin using a recently developed rubric. It is anticipated that this said rubric will reveal where new student learning outcomes can be developed and utilized.

Course Links

SOSC499 [Senior Research Seminar Capstone Experience (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]**Program outcomes**

Critical Thinking

Graduates apply critical thinking in academic and professional environments.

Writing

Graduates demonstrate effective written communication skills.

Criminal Conduct, Law, and Procedure

Students will be able to analyze criminal conduct and apply criminal law and procedure.

Leadership

Students will apply leadership theories and methods to criminal justice environments.

End of report