

University of Dayton Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work Proposed Unit Assessment Plan

The Mission and Goals of DSASW, as found in bylaws p. 2 Revised 2001, are as follows:

- 1) Creation, transmission and application of knowledge concerning the relationship of individuals and groups with their social and cultural environment.
- 2) Knowledge and understanding of the local community
- 3) Analyze major social institutions and problems of previous and contemporary generations
- 4) Be a critic of society and provide service in the hope of improving the quality of life in the broader community and society
- 5) Commitment to liberal learning and service

Following department discussion and agreement, the Unit's discrete "outcomes" that are tied specifically to our mission and that map to at least one of the University Goals are as follows:

Proposed DSASW Department Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcome One: Significant Research Experience (maps to Scholarship, Goal 1 and Goal 5, practical wisdom).

Assessment Objective: All department majors will complete the capstone experience consisting of a seminar on research and writing in criminal justice studies or sociology, an empirical research project of the student's choosing, and a written and oral presentation of the research.

Measure: Successful completion of the requirements for SOC 409 or CJS 447.

Assessment Timeline: Annually starting (continuing since 2008) in 2010.

Assessment Protocol: See accompanying Document.

Learning Outcome Two: An understanding of diverse human groups, their histories, social locations and cultures and their relationship with other groups (maps to Goal 3 Diversity).

Assessment Objective: All sociology and criminal justice studies majors will complete an experience that brings them into significant engaged contact with a culture or population (e.g. class, race, gender, ethnicity, religion, nationality, sexual orientation, ability) other than their own that results in a scholarly reflection on that experience.

Measure: Every sociology and criminal justice studies major will complete a scholarly reflection of a sustained personal experience interacting with a social group other than their own. This requirement will be certified by their academic advisor prior to their enrollment in SOC 409 or CJS 447.

Some examples based on existing experiences of many majors: papers, journals or essays that are based on semester or summer study abroad experiences; immersion experiences, or some Breakout trips (those which include significant interaction with local residents), course projects or internships which include significant fieldwork with diverse populations.

Assessment Timeline: Every Other Year starting in 2011.

Assessment Protocol: See accompanying Document.

Timetable:

May 2008 : Assessed Number one.

May 2009: Submit Assessment Plan, Report Assessment on Learning Goal One.

September 2009: Communication to incoming and existing majors.

May 2010: Report Assessment on Learning Goal One.

May 2011: Report Assessment on Learning Goals One and Two.