

B. Student Outcome Assessment Program
2. Master or Science in Criminology

a. Description and Mission Statement

The Master of Science in Criminology was created in 1957 making it one of the oldest Criminology graduate programs in the United States. The graduate program is presently serving over 50 students in their on-campus program and this Spring Semester will start another off-campus cohort program with 25 additional students. Over the last five years (1999-2004), the Criminology on-campus and off-campus graduate programs have graduated over 90 students. This represents a major growth rate over the preceding five years (1994-1999) in which 33 Criminology students received their M.S. degrees.

The Mission Statement of the Graduate Program in the Department of Criminology is to provide students the opportunity for advanced study designed to enhance professional competencies. The program is designed to prepare students for service and responsible administrative and professional positions in agencies in the criminal justice system. The Master of Science Program also prepares students for a wide variety of occupations including community college teaching, doctoral and legal studies, and research positions.

b. List of Courses (offered in last five years)

CRIM 200	Research Methods in Criminology
CRIM 201	History of Western Criminological Thought
CRIM 202	Law and the Criminal Justice System
CRIM 203	Criminal Justice Administration
CRIM 220	Seminar in Group Therapy in Criminal Justice Agencies
CRIM 252	Seminar in Criminal Justice Personnel Administration
CRIM 255	Seminar in Criminal Justice Labor Relations
CRIM 265	Sex Crimes
CRIM 270T	Problems in Criminology
CRIM 275	Victimology and Social Change
CRIM 290	Independent Study
CRIM 292	Readings in Criminology
CRIM 295	Controversial Issues in Crime, Criminology, and Law
CRIM 299	Thesis
CRIM 298	Projects

c. Goals

1. Expand upon undergraduate foundations while enhancing professional competencies in theory, criminal justice administration and law. (knowledge & content)
2. Show evidence of growth in areas of research design and statistical analysis. (critical thinking & analysis)
3. Demonstrate growth in the areas of written and oral communication skills. (performance and professionalism)
4. Demonstrate understanding in the areas of critical thinking, problem solving, measurement, and systematic ways of knowing. (critical thinking & synthesis)

d. Learning Outcomes

The Criminology Graduate Program Goals noted above are to be fulfilled by the following student *Learning Outcomes*:

Goal 1. Expand upon undergraduate foundations while enhancing professional competencies in theory, criminal justice administration and law.

- Objective 1.1 Students will be able to appraise, analysis, criticize, compare and contrast both classical and modern theories of crime causation.
- Objective 1.2 Students will be able to apply criminological theories to various types of social deviance and research proposals.
- Objective 1.3 Students will be able to demonstrate and show an advanced comprehension of the case method of studying criminal and constitutional law, selected criminal offenses, applicable theories and philosophies of substantive law, and knowledge of relevant court decisions and opinions.
- Objective 1.4 Students should have a comprehensive assessment of the historical evolution of the criminal justice system, organization/management theory and the principles and processes related to the operation and functioning of criminal justice agencies.

Goal 2. Show evidence of growth in areas of research design and statistical analysis.

- Objective 2.1 Students will engage in an analysis, appraisal and criticism of research literature.
- Objective 2.2 Student will engage in critical analysis of research design.

Objective 2.3 Students will understand and utilize techniques of quantitative and qualitative data analysis.

Objective 2.4 Students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of research design by creating a research proposal.

Goal 3. Demonstrate growth in the areas of written and oral communication skills.

Objective 3.1 Students will successfully complete the Qualifying Writing Skill Exam.

Objective 3.2 Students will submit written material and make oral presentations to peers and faculty.

Objective 3.3 Students will successfully revise, through the final approval process, a thesis or project or write a passing comprehensive exam.

Goal 4. Demonstrate understanding in the areas of critical thinking, problem solving, measurement, and systematic ways of knowing through a thesis, project or comprehensive examination.

Objective 4.1 Students will review literature in their chosen field of study.

Objective 4.2 Students will prepare a successful thesis or project proposal.

Objective 4.3 Students will complete a thesis or project while exhibiting high ethical standards and integrity.

Objective 4.4 Students will write a passing comprehensive examination while exhibiting high ethical standards and integrity.

**OBJECTIVE BY COURSE MATRIX
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINOLOGY**

Class	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	3.1	3.2	3.3	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4
Crim 200		S			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	S	P	S	P
Crim 201	P	P			S					P		S			P
Crim 202			P							P		S			P
Crim 203				P	S					P		S			P
Crim 220					S					P		S			S
Crim 252					P					P		S			S
Crim 255					P					P		S			S
Crim 265		S			S					P		S			S
Crim 270T	S	S			S					P		S			S
Crim 275		S			S					P		S			S
Crim 290					P					P		S			
Crim 292					P	P	P	P		P	S	P	S		S
Crim 295	P	S	P		P	P	P			P	S	S			P
Crim 298	S	P			P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	
Crim 299	S	P			P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P	P	
Comp Exam	P	P	P	P	P	P	S			P	P	P			P
Crim 281				P	P					P		S			

P = primary responsibility S= secondary responsibility

e. Assessment Methods
Assessment Instruments and Activities

The Criminology Graduate Faculty Group will have the primary responsibility for gathering and reviewing the assessment data and making recommendations for program change. The following data will be collected and reviewed.

1. Assessment Review Team Evaluation (2004/2005)

A three-member review team will evaluate and critique the five-year Department of Criminology Assessment Plan. This will permit us to receive outside objective feedback on the proposed plan.

2. Graduate Writing Requirement Evaluation (2005/2006)

Our graduate writing requirement policy states that writing competency will be assessed using a 4 point scoring scale. To demonstrate competency, the student must score 3 or higher in each of three areas: Style and Format; Mechanics; and Content and Organization. The writing sample is evaluated by graduate faculty. Those students who are unable to demonstrate competence necessitate remediation. A summary of graduate students' scores in each of the four areas will be submitted to the program coordinator for review each year. Evaluations will be conducted on students' areas of weakness and strength and special attention will be given to students who do not initial pass and then, after remediation, do pass and the process that proved successful for them.

3. The Evaluation of our Comprehensive Examinations (2006/2007)

The Criminology Graduate Comprehensive Exam evaluates students in five different areas (foundation, theory, research methods, administration and law). The Graduate Faculty Group will examine students' competencies and scores over a three-year period and make recommendations on program changes to strengthen areas of consistent weakness.

4. Develop project/thesis guidelines and evaluation procedures (2007/2008)

These guidelines will increase the consistency of the projects and theses across advisers and make it possible to evaluate our students' performance related to our listed goals. The Graduate Faculty Group will be responsible for the development of these guidelines and evaluation procedures. The Graduate Coordinator will be responsible for disseminating the guidelines to advisers and students. Advisers will be responsible for having students follow the guidelines and evaluating their projects/theses.

**OBJECTIVE BY ASSESSMENT ACTIVITY MATRIX
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINOLOGY**

Assess

Activity 1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4 2.1 2.2 2.3 2.4 3.1 3.2 3.3 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4

Review Team*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Grad Write Require					X	X			X	X							
Comp Exams	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X				X	
Project Thesis Guide					X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X			

*** The Review Team will provide an evaluation and critique of the overall plan, the selective goals and objectives and the assessment activities. Their analysis may not apply to all of the department’s specific objectives.**