

Course or Program Assessment Summary

Division: Social Sciences

Program: Sociology

Courses in Program: Soc 201A, 201B, 202, 204, 206, 208

Date: 2/25/15

Faculty involved with the assessment and analysis: Jane Morgan, Ph.D.; Frank Ha, Ph.D.

Course to program outcome mapping document** is completed Yes X No

1	Student Learning Outcome Statements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Program <input type="checkbox"/> Course	1. Students will demonstrate that they have the knowledge and skills required to succeed in the study of sociology. 2. Students will demonstrate critical thinking and perceptive reading skills. 3. Students will use their skills for sociological analysis.
2	Assessment Methods Plan (attach any assessment instruments, scoring rubrics, SLO mapping diagrams)	The Sociology Program utilizes both survey-based and direct assessment for student learning outcomes (SLOs) for all Program and course SLOs that uses an instrument (on file in G:/Sociology) that is administered at the end of the course (The two exceptions to this are Soc201B and Soc204 which were assessed utilizing a direct method). In several courses, the Program SLOs are assessed together with the course-specific SLOs by including the Program SLOs as the first SLOs to be rated on the survey forms.
3	Assessment Administration Plan (date(s), sample size and selection of course sections, scoring procedures, etc.)	Assessments occurred in multiple sections of Soc 201A Introduction to Sociology at the San Luis Obispo campus with 145 students completing the assessment in Fall 2010, 99 students completing the assessment in Spring 2012, and 144 students in Fall 2013. Assessment of Soc 202 Social Problems at the San Luis Obispo campus with 22 students was completed in Fall 2011 and with 35 students in Fall 2013; assessment of Soc 206 Race and Ethnicity at the San Luis Obispo campus with 18 students was completed in the Spring 2012 semester; assessment of Soc 208 Introduction to Women's Studies at the San Luis Obispo campus with 28 students was completed in the Spring 2010 semester and with 25 students in Fall 2013. The data has been scored and statistically analyzed for each course section and for aggregated data from multiple sections of Introduction to Sociology. Soc 201B and Soc 204 were assessed directly utilizing exam questions, project components, and student papers, and Soc 208 was assessed using both direct assessment and indirect assessment techniques. One section of Soc 201A was assessed directly in Fall 2014 using multiple-choice exam questions. One section of Soc 202 (in Fall 2014) and one section of Soc 206 (in Spring 2014) were directly assessed using research papers.
4	Assessment Results Summary (attach any Data/Statistical Reports)	With respect to student self-assessments, statistical summaries for each section and aggregated data are on file in G:/Sociology. The Program and course SLO assessments showed generally high levels of student achievement across all SLOs. We substantially implemented a plan for direct assessment of student learning outcomes. The first outcome was assessed by evaluating the performance of students in SOC 201A (Fall 2014) on selected questions on their final comprehensive exam. The second outcome was assessed by evaluating the performance of students on their journal critiques in Soc 208. The third outcome was assessed by evaluating the performance of students on their research projects in Soc

		<p>202 (Fall 2014).</p> <p>Direct assessment results of multiple-choice exam questions for SOC 201A (Fall 2014) measuring SLO 1:</p> <p>68 students were assessed. The average percent of students who correctly answered each of the five questions was 68 percent.</p> <p>Direct assessment results of research papers for SOC 202 (Fall 2014) measuring SLO 3:</p> <p>29 students assessed: 26 students scored 70 percent or higher (outcome achieved) 3 students scored lower than 70 percent (outcome not achieved)</p>
5	Discussion of Assessment Procedure and Results, and Effectiveness of Previous Improvement Plans	<p>With respect to student self-assessments, the generally high levels of student achievement across all SLOs indicate that the courses successfully prepare students for advanced coursework in sociology.</p> <p>The direct method of student assessment gives the instructor a measurable means of assessing current student understanding. Analysis of direct assessments is currently underway.</p>
6	Recommended Changes & Plans for Implementation of Improvements	<p>Faculty should continue to list SLOs on the syllabi and discuss them with their students. Additional consideration of the Program and course SLOs should be made when creating new assignments, exams and other course materials in order to focus student learning on the various SLOs that have been identified for the course and Program.</p> <p>With respect to the process of assessment, both direct and indirect, Sociology faculty will continue to discuss how our assessments can more accurately and usefully measure student achievement.</p>
7	Description or evidence of dialog among course or program-level faculty about assessment plan and results	<p>The full-time Sociology Program faculty has met on multiple occasions to discuss the results of the assessment cycle and to decide on a plan for continuing improvement of course and Program SLOs. The Program and course SLOs, assessment cycle and plans for improvement have also been discussed with the part-time instructors, who have been encouraged to conduct assessments and incorporate the improvement plan in their courses when possible.</p>