

Sociology, Social Work, and Family Sciences
PLO Data for Criminal Justice – Traditional Undergraduate
FA2025-SP2026

Learning Outcome #1:

Demonstrate comprehension of the theoretical and legal foundations of criminal justice.

Outcome Measure:

Area Concentration Achievement Test (ACAT/ETS)

Criteria for Success (if applicable):

The majority of students will have an overall score at or above the 50th on the ACAT/ETS.

Aligned with DQP Learning Areas (circle one or more but not all five):

1. **Specialized Knowledge**
2. Broad Integrative Knowledge
3. Intellectual Skills/Core Competencies
4. Applied and Collaborative Learning
5. Civic and Global Learning

Longitudinal Data:

AY	N	Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Success Criteria	Comments
2025-26	11	63.6%	The majority of Sociology Criminal Justice majors (7/11) students scored at or above the 50 th percentile on the legal foundations portion of the ETS Criminal Justice Major Field Test.
2023-24	5	20%	One of five (1/5) students scored at or above the 50 th percentile on the ETS Criminal Justice Major Field Test.
2022-23	4	50%	Two of 4 students (2/4) scored at or above the 50 th percentile of ETS Criminal Justice Major Field Test. Two of four did not meet the requirement.
2021-22	7	57.1%	The majority of students (4/7) scored at or above the 50 th percentile of ETS Criminal Justice Major Field Test. Three of seven did not meet the requirement.
2020-21	3	100%	In 2020-21 the students took the ETS Criminal Justice Major Field test. Overall Scored in the 81 st percentile nationally.
2019-20	3	0	None of our students scored at or above the 50 th percentile overall on the ACAT this year. While this is unusual students did meet specific outcomes we focus on.
2018-19	8	87.5%	The majority of students scored at or above the 50 th percentile on the ACAT 7 of 8.
2017-18	9	78%	The majority of students scored at or above the 50 th percentile on the ACAT 7 of 9.

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2016-17	4	75%	The majority of students scored at or above the 50 th percentile on the ACAT 3 of 4.
2015-16	5	40%	Only 2 of 5 met the criteria for success. Two additional students just missed the threshold for success achieving scores above the 40 th percentile range.
2014-15	2	50%	The overall sample size was too low to determine. One of two met the criteria for success.

Conclusions Drawn from Data:

The majority of Sociology Criminal Justice majors (7/11, 63.6%) students scored at or above the 50th percentile on the legal foundations portion of the ETS Criminal Justice Major Field Test. This is a significant improvement over the last few years, suggesting the modifications to the curriculum demonstrate promise. It also indicates an improvement in the teaching of these courses due to the addition of a full-time Criminal Justice faculty member.

Changes to be Made Based on Data:

Monitor future cohorts for continued improvement and validation of findings from the ETS.

Rubric Used: No rubric. ETS used.

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Learning Outcome #2:

Demonstrate knowledge of each of the components of the criminal justice system: the historical background, structure, function, and purpose. Demonstrate comprehension of the theoretical and legal foundations of criminal justice.

Outcome Measure:

Area Concentration Achievement Test (ACAT/ETS)

Criteria for Success (if applicable):

The majority of students will have an overall score at or above the 50th on the ACAT.

Aligned with DQP Learning Areas (circle one or more but not all five):

1. **Specialized Knowledge**
2. Broad Integrative Knowledge
3. Intellectual Skills/Core Competencies
4. Applied and Collaborative Learning
5. Civic and Global Learning

Longitudinal Data:

AY	N	Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Success Criteria	Comments
2025-26	11	54.5%	Most (6/11) graduating Soc-CJ majors had a comprehensive score at or above the 50 th percentile on the ETS Criminal Justice Major Field Test.
2023-24	5	20%	One of five (1/5) students scored at or above the 50 th percentile on the ETS Criminal Justice Major Field Test.
2022-23	4	50%	Two of 4 students (2/4) scored at or above the 50 th percentile of ETS Criminal Justice Major Field Test. Two of four did not meet the requirement.
2021-22	7	57.1%	The majority of students scored at or above the 50 th percentile overall, indicating a degree of success in an understanding of the criminal justice system.
2020-21	3	100%	In 2020-21 the students took the ETS Criminal Justice Major Field test. Overall Scored in the 81 st percentile nationally.
2019-20	3	0	None of our students scored at or above the 50 th percentile overall on the ACAT this year. While this is unusual students did meet specific outcomes we focus on.
2018-19	8	87.5%	The majority of students scored at or above the 50 th percentile on the ACAT 7 of 8.
2017-18	9	78%	The majority of students scored at or above the 50 th percentile on the ACAT 7 of 9.
2016-17	4	75%	The majority of students scored at or above the 50 th percentile on the ACAT 3 of 4.
2015-16	5	40%	Only 2 of 5 met the criteria for success. Two additional students just missed the threshold for success achieving scores above the 40 th percentile range.

2014-15	2	50%	The overall sample size was too low to determine. One of two met the criteria for success.
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Conclusions Drawn from Data:

Most 54.5% of graduating Soc-CJ majors had a comprehensive score at or above the 50th percentile on the ETS Criminal Justice Major Field Test. An improvement over the last several years. Our strengths remain in the areas of the law, the courts, and the corrections systems. Law enforcement was our weakest category this year, this might be since most of our students are interested in attending law school, rather than going into law enforcement. Research methods remain an area of concern, but the current cohort performed better than in previous years.

Changes to be Made Based on Data:

Explore how law enforcement is taught to ensure a better grasp of the content. Monitor performance in research methods.

Rubric Used: No rubric. ETS used.

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Learning Outcome #3:

Demonstrate understanding and appreciation of the social realities, discrimination, and conflicts in the criminal justice system resulting from racial, socio-economic, and cultural inequities.

Outcome Measure:

ETS Intercultural Competency & Diversity Assessment

Criteria for Success (if applicable):

The majority of students will score at or above the 50th percentile on the multiculturalism measure of the ETS.

Aligned with DQP Learning Areas (circle one or more but not all five):

1. **Specialized Knowledge**
2. Broad Integrative Knowledge
3. Intellectual Skills/Core Competencies
4. Applied and Collaborative Learning
5. Civic and Global Learning

Longitudinal Data:

AY	N	Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Success Criteria	Comments
2025-26	11	54.5%	The majority (6/11) of Soc-CJ majors scored at or above the 50 th percentile on the multicultural measure of ETS Sociology Major Field Test.
2023-24	5	80%	Four of five (4/5) students scored at or above the 50 th percentile on the multicultural measure of ETS Sociology Major Field Test.
2022-23	4	0%	Zero of 4 students (0/4) scored at or above the 50 th percentile of ETS Major Field Test in Sociology Diversity category.
2021-22	7	57.1	The majority, 4 of 7, of CJ scored at or above the 50 th percentile on the ETS Major Field Test in Sociology Multiculturalism Measure. Scores ranged from the 96 th to the 1 st percentile, with a mode of 65 th percentile.
2020-21	3	100%	All of the students scored at or above 50 th on EST major field test on multiculturalism.
2019-20	3	100%	All of the students scored at or above 50 th on EST major field test on multiculturalism.
2018-19	8	87.5%	The majority of students, 7 of 8, scored at or above the 50 th percentile on the EST Major Field test on race, ethnicity, and gender. The only person not scoring above the 50 th percentile, had not taken Race and Ethnicity at the time of the ETS Exam.
2017-18	9	56%	The majority of students, 5 of 9, scored at or above the 50 th percentile on the EST Major Field test on race, ethnicity, and gender. Two of the four who scored below, had not taken the specific course

			addressing these issues when they took the ETS.
2016-17	4	80%	The majority students, 4 of 5, scored in the 60 th percentile or above. One student fell below the criteria for success.
2015-16	5	80%	The majority students 4 of 5, scored in the 60 th percentile or above. One student fell below the criteria for success.
2014-15	3	66%	The majority students 2 of 3, scored in the 60 th percentile or above. One student fell below the criteria for success.

Conclusions Drawn from Data:

The majority (6/11) of Soc-CJ majors scored at or above the 50th percentile on the multicultural measure of ETS Sociology Major Field Test. Understanding the relationship between race and ethnicity and the criminal justice system is highly valued by the department. Unfortunately, there is no clear pattern in the data to help us understand the results of the ETS. While we are happy that we met this outcome, we would like to see improvement in the results.

Changes to be Made Based on Data:

Monitor future performance to assess patterns in the data to improve our outcomes.

Rubric Used:

None, ETS exam

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Learning Outcome #4:

Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior, and apply critical thinking and problem-solving skills, in an approved internship setting.

Outcome Measure:

Internship Evaluation

Criteria for Success (if applicable):

The majority of will successfully complete their internship.

Aligned with DQP Learning Areas (circle one or more but not all five):

1. **Specialized Knowledge**
2. Broad Integrative Knowledge
3. Intellectual Skills/Core Competencies
4. Applied and Collaborative Learning
5. Civic and Global Learning

Longitudinal Data:

AY	N	Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Success Criteria	Comments
2025-26	11	90.9%	The majority of CJ majors (10/11) successfully completed their internships. At the time of this writing, one student is still engaged in their internship.
2023-24	5	100%	All CJ majors successfully completed their internships.
2022-23	4	100%	All CJ majors successfully completed their internships.
2021-22		100%	All of CJ majors successfully completed their internships.
2020-21		100%	Even in the challenging conditions of COVID-19 all of our students successfully completed their internships.
2019-20		100%	All of our Criminal Justice majors successfully completed their internships at the time of graduation this academic year.
2018-19		100%	All of our Criminal Justice majors successfully completed their internships at the time of graduation this academic year.
2016-17	4	75%	At this time 75% have successfully completed their internship. One is still in process of fulfilling the requirements for the degree.
2015-16	5	100%	All students successfully completed their internship in Criminal Justice.
2014-15	3	100%	All students successfully completed their internship in Criminal Justice.

Conclusions Drawn from Data:

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CJ student's strength tends to be in the application of knowledge in practical settings. Our students have excelled in every context where they have engaged in the application of their learning.

Changes to be Made Based on Data:

No changes at this time