Program-Level Assessment Plan

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY.

Program: Sociology	Degree Level (e.g., UG or GR certificate, UG major, master's program, doctoral program): UG
Department: Sociology and Anthropology	College/School: College of Arts and Sciences
Date (Month/Year): 06/23/2020	Primary Assessment Contact: Joel Jennings

Note: Each cell in the table below will expand as needed to accommodate your responses.

#	Student Learning Outcomes	Curriculum Mapping	Assessment Methods		Use of Assessment Data
	What do the program faculty expect all students to know or be able to do as a result of completing this program? Note: These should be measurable and manageable in number (typically 4-6 are sufficient).	In which courses will faculty intentionally work to foster some level of student development toward achievement of the outcome? Please clarify the level (e.g., introduced, developed, reinforced, achieved, etc.) at which student development is expected in each course.	**Student Artifacts (What)** 1. Which student artifacts will be used to determine if students have achieved this outcome? 2. In which courses will these artifacts be collected?	**Evaluation Process (How)** 1. What process will be used to evaluate the student artifacts, and by whom? 2. What tools(s) (e.g., a rubric) will be used in the process? Note: Please include any rubrics as part of the submitted plan documents.	1. How and when will analyzed data be used by faculty to make changes in pedagogy, curriculum design, and/or assessment work? 2. How and when will the program evaluate the impact of assessment-informed changes made in previous years?
1	Goal #1: Sociology majors will demonstrate an understanding of issues related to diversity, inequality, and social justice.	SOC 4840: Sociology Capstone	Direct Measures: An assessment committee evaluates Capstone papers from a sample of students, using a rubric on a scale of 1-5 (1 = unacceptable, 3 =	An assessment committee will examine assessment data every May. Their report will then be shared with the faculty by email and discussed at	Data will be gathered and evaluated by the assessment committee in May of the year in which the Learning Objective is assessed. The Sociology Division will undertake a review of the

	Learning Outcomes: a) identify examples of cross-cultural diversity in beliefs and customs? b) identify examples of stratification by race/ethnicity, gender, and social class, and explain how inequality affects life chances, especially for marginalized others? c) articulate policies or practices that can help promote or impede social justice in local, national, or global contexts?		adequate, 5 = excellent) for each of the learning outcomes. SOC 4840: Sociology Capstone	department retreat every August. Any changes that are made at the department or instructor levels will be conveyed back to assessment committee. The assessment committee will submit an annual report to the University Assessment Coordinator, currently Kathleen Thatcher.	findings each fall in a designated division meeting. Evaluation of previous assessment-informed decisions will also be addressed both in this meeting and throughout the academic year in appropriate division and department meetings.
2	Goal #2: Sociology majors will understand the role of theory in social analysis. Learning Outcomes: a) describe the role of theory in building sociological knowledge b) compare and contrast basic theoretical orientations; or, identify assumptions in analyses and arguments c) apply theories to examples or situations	SOC 3100: Sociological Theory or SOC 3150: Theory of the Social Sciences.	Direct Measures: An assessment committee evaluates samples of student work (papers, essay questions from exams) using a rubric with a scale of 1-5 (1 = unacceptable, 3 = adequate, 5 = excellent) for each of the learning outcomes. Indirect Measures: In an exit interview (i.e., focus group) with all graduating seniors, we will ask students to report	An assessment committee will examine assessment data every May. Their report will then be shared with the faculty by email and discussed at department retreat every August. Any changes that are made at the department or instructor levels will be conveyed back to assessment committee. The assessment committee will submit an annual report to the University Assessment	Data will be gathered and evaluated by the assessment committee in May of the year in which the Learning Objective is assessed. The Sociology Division will undertake a review of the findings each fall in a designated division meeting. Evaluation of previous assessment-informed decisions will also be addressed both in this meeting and throughout the academic year in appropriate division and department meetings.

		their perceptions of the degree to which they have met these learning outcomes. SOC 3100: Sociological Theory or SOC 3150 Theory in the Social Sciences.	Coordinator, currently Kathleen Thatcher.	

3	Goal #3: Sociology majors will understand the role of qualitative and quantitative research methods in sociology.
	
	Learning Outcomes:
	
	    a) compare and contrast methodological approaches for gathering data
	
	    b) design a small study
	
	    c) critically assess a published research report
		SOC 2000: Research Methods	Direct Measures: An assessment committee evaluates samples of student work (papers, essay questions from exams) using a rubric with a scale of 1-5 (1 = unacceptable, 3 = adequate, 5 = excellent) for each of the learning outcomes.
			
			Indirect Measures: In an exit interview (i.e., focus group) with all graduating seniors, we will ask students to report their perceptions of the degree to which they have met these learning outcomes.
			
			SOC 2000: Research Methods
				An assessment committee will examine assessment data every May. Their report will then be shared with the faculty by email and discussed at department retreat every August. Any changes that are made at the department or instructor levels will be conveyed back to assessment committee. The assessment committee will submit an annual report to the University Assessment Coordinator, currently Kathleen Thatcher.	Data will be gathered and evaluated by the assessment committee in May of the year in which the Learning Objective is assessed. The Sociology Division will undertake a review of the findings each fall in a designated division meeting.
					
					Evaluation of previous assessment-informed decisions will also be addressed both in this meeting and throughout the academic year in appropriate division and department meetings.

4	Goal #4: Sociology majors will have the skills necessary to communicate effectively in written and oral forms. Learning Outcomes:	SOC 4840: Sociology Capstone	Direct Measures: An assessment committee evaluates Capstone papers and presentations from a sample of	An assessment committee will examine assessment data every May. Their report will then be shared with the faculty by email and discussed at	Data will be gathered and evaluated by the assessment committee in May of the year in which the Learning Objective is assessed. The Sociology Division will undertake a review of the

		students, using a rubric with a scale of 1-5 (1 = unacceptable, 3 = adequate, 5 = excellent) for each of the learning outcomes.	department retreat every August. Any changes that are made at the department or instructor levels will be conveyed back to assessment committee. The assessment committee will submit an annual report to the University Assessment Coordinator, currently Kathleen Thatcher.	findings each fall in a designated division meeting.
a) write a clear and convincing sociological analysis of an event, issue, or problem b) make an oral presentation that is succinct, clear, convincing, and professional c) use computerized and online resources to find information (e.g., databases, reputable internet websites, government statistics, etc.) d) evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of information sources, and assess which references are appropriate for academic research		Indirect Measures: In an exit interview (i.e., focus group) with all graduating seniors, we will ask students to report their perceptions of the degree to which they have met these learning outcomes. SOC 4840: Sociology Capstone		Evaluation of previous assessment-informed decisions will also be addressed both in this meeting and throughout the academic year in appropriate division and department meetings.

Additional Questions

1. On what schedule/cycle will faculty assess each of the program's student learning outcomes? (Please note: It is not recommended to try to assess every outcome every year.)

    We will assess one learning goal (with the associated learning outcomes) per year, on a rotating basis.
    - 2016 — Goal 1 (with associated learning outcomes)
    - 2017 — Goal 2 (with associated learning outcomes)
    - 2018 — Goal 3 (with associated learning outcomes)
    - 2019 — Goal 4 (with associated learning outcomes)
    - 2020 — Repeat cycle

    The sociology division director, in consultation with the department chair, will create and supervise an assessment committee, charged with (a) collecting and analyzing assessment data, (b) reporting findings, (c) tracking revisions to the curriculum, (d) updating and improving assessment

plan, and (e) reporting activities to the University Assessment Coordinator.

2. Describe how, and the extent to which, program faculty contributed to the development of this plan.

A committee of faculty members worked with university experts external to the department to develop this plan. The original plan was implemented in Spring 2015 with the approval of the faculty. This plan (at least in part) is discussed and reviewed every May (by the assessment committee) and every August (by the department as a whole, when the committee reports its findings at the annual retreat). Specifics of the findings are then further addressed in division meetings.

IMPORTANT: Please remember to submit any rubrics or other assessment tools along with this plan.

Rubric for Assessing Sociology Goal #2

Paper # _____ Last Name_____

Goal #2: Sociology majors will understand the role of theory in social analysis.

a) Does the student describe the role of theory in building sociological knowledge

Poor		*Adequate*		*Excellent*
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*

Comments:

b) *Does the student* compare and contrast basic theoretical orientations; or, identify assumptions in analyses and arguments

Poor		*Adequate*		*Excellent*
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*

Comments:

c) Does the student apply theories to examples or situations

Poor		*Adequate*		*Excellent*
1	2	3	4	5

Comments:

Rubric for Exit Interviews (2021)

Structured Exit Interview with Graduating Sociology Seniors

Focus group questions.

1. What was the most interesting question on the questionnaire?

2. What was/were your favorite courses in the major?

3. What elective courses would you suggest we create?

4. Weakness in the curriculum—What required courses would you suggest we create?

5. Do you have a sense of the breadth of knowledge of this discipline?

6. Were courses with hands-on-experience helpful?

7. Do you think you received helpful guidance from you mentor?

Goal #2:   Sociology majors will understand the role of theory in social analysis.

 Learning Outcomes:
8. describe the role of theory in building sociological knowledge. What is a good answer?

9. compare and contrast basic theoretical orientations or, identify assumptions in analyses and arguments.   Marx, Weber, Durkheim

10. apply theories to examples or situations Do the students identify major concepts Here we may prompt them with key/major concepts or ask them to list what they think are the major concepts.

11. Other Issues:

      a. Facilities? Lab, lab access…?

      b. Research Experience? Did you get the appropriate experience? Where did you get that research experience?

      c. Security issues?

12. What additional questions should we be asking?

Notes on responses: