

# Framingham State University

## Program Assessment Plan for Criminology (2021-2026)

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Date Created/Updated:	Created on 4/25/17 and most recently revised on 05/24/2021

### 1) PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in Criminology is a sociologically oriented baccalaureate program grounded in a strong liberal arts curriculum. This program introduces students to three important dimensions of criminology: 1) the role of law and legal systems; 2) social/structural dimensions of crime; 3) individual/behavioral dimensions of crime.

While this program will undoubtedly attract students interested in criminal-legal system careers, the major is intended to introduce students to a broader array of career opportunities beyond that provided by training in criminal justice. Students studying criminology at Framingham State learn to approach crime from a theoretically informed and research-based perspective. Our program understands “crime” and criminalization as social constructs and examines the underlying social inequalities that shape the responses to and experiences of crime. Furthermore, the program highlights how structures of power: such as racism and white supremacy, have influenced social control and punishment through present-day. Students implement creative thought about the role of social action in transforming criminal-legal policy and responding to harm.

### 2) PROGRAM LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- I. Explain criminal behavior, criminal-legal systems, constructions of deviance and conformity, and mechanisms of social control. [Comprehension]
- II. Apply criminological schools of thought to interpretations of the social world. [Application]

- III. Design and conduct an empirical criminological research project using quantitative and/or qualitative methods. [Synthesis]
- IV. Assess causes and consequences of social inequality and power as they relate to crime, criminal behavior, and the criminal-legal system. [Evaluation]

### 3) LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

<b><u>Program Learning Objectives</u></b>				
<b>Course</b>	<b>PLO #1</b>	<b>PLO #2</b>	<b>PLO #3</b>	<b>PLO #4</b>
CRIM 121: Sociological Perspectives on Criminology	I	I	I	I
CRIM 301: Criminological Theory	R	EA	R	R
SOCI 302: Quantitative Methods I	R	R	IR	R
SOCI 303: Quantitative Methods II	R	EA	EA	EA
SOCI 320: Uncovering Meaning in the Social World	R	EA	EA	RE
CRIM 495: Internship in Criminology	EA			EA

<b>Key:</b>
I = Introduced
R = Reinforced
E = Emphasized
A = Assessed

#### 4) ASSESSMENT METHODS AND TIMELINE

Indicate when and how program learning objectives will be assessed. Refer to the curriculum map to draft a student learning objective assessment timeline. It is recommended that you outline a 5-year plan for assessment in which you will assess all of your PLOs.

<b>Academic Years</b>	<b>Objectives(s)</b>	<b>Course(s)</b>	<b>Assessment Evidence (direct/indirect)</b>	<b>Assessment Method</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
WHEN	WHICH Objectives(s) will you examine in each period (Use number)?	WHERE will you look for evidence of student learning (i.e., list course(s) that will generate evidence for each objective.	WHAT student work or other evidence will you examine in order to assess each objective?	HOW will you look at the evidence; what means will you use to analyze the evidence collected for each objective	WHO will oversee collecting, analyzing, reporting, results? List names or titles.
<b>Year 1 2020-2021</b>	This year we updated our program mission statement and program learning objectives. In Summer, pending the formation of an assessment committee and funding, we can begin to identify which PLO we'll start with and develop our method and analytical plan.				
<b>Year 2 2021-2022</b>	PLO #3	CRIM 495	Final Papers	Rubrics (TBD)	Guadalupe-Diaz
<b>Year 3 2022-2023</b>	PLO #1	CRIM 121	Final Papers or Reflective/Evaluation Journal assignment	Rubrics (TBD)	Guadalupe-Diaz
<b>Year 4 2023-2024</b>	PLO #2	CRIM 301	Final Papers	Rubrics (TBD)	Guadalupe-Diaz
<b>Year 5 2024-2025</b>	PLO #1-5	CRIM 303	Research Papers		

**Program Size and Sampling Technique**

a. State the number of students in the program or the number who graduate each year.

	<u>11/12</u>	<u>12/13</u>	<u>13/14</u>	<u>14/15</u>	<u>15/16</u>	<u>16/17</u>	<u>17/18</u>	<u>18/19</u>	<u>19/20</u>
Majors	83	189	265	271	284	276	253	293	244
Graduates	1	15	34	65	65	66	n/a	n/a	n/a

b. Describe the sampling technique to be used

A single-stage random cluster sampling technique will be used to select artifacts from CRIM 495.

**5) PLAN FOR ANALYZING RESULTS**

- List who is responsible for distributing results and who will receive results?

The Assessment Coordinator will distribute results to all members of the department and to the FSU Office of Assessment.

- State how and at which forums discussion of results will take place.

Results will be discussed during regular department meetings; during meetings of the Criminology Program Advisory Board (CPAB); at the annual Sociology departmental retreat in May.

**6) DISTRIBUTION.** The program will distribute or publish these items in the following ways:

<i>ITEM</i>	<i>Distribution Method</i>						
	<b>FSU Catalog</b> (provide section title)	<b>Website</b> (provide URL)	<b>Annual Reports</b>	<b>Brochures</b>	<b>Course Syllabi</b>	<b>Other</b> (please describe, e.g. department meeting, advising session)	
Program Mission	Program Mission	Criminology Major (p. 334)	<a href="https://www.framingham.edu/academics/colleges/social-and-behavioral-sciences/sociology/programs/majors/criminology-major">https://www.framingham.edu/academics/colleges/social-and-behavioral-sciences/sociology/programs/majors/criminology-major</a> <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Yes	No	Dept. Meeting; Advising Sessions,

							Dept bulletin boards
Program Learning Objectives	Program Learning Objectives	Criminology Major (p. 334)	<a href="https://www.framingham.edu/academics/colleges/social-and-behavioral-sciences/sociology/index">https://www.framingham.edu/academics/colleges/social-and-behavioral-sciences/sociology/index</a>	Yes	Yes	No	Dept. Meeting; Advising Sessions, Dept bulletin boards
Learning Opportunities (Curriculum Map)	Learning Opportunities (Curriculum Map)	No	Yes (url TBD)	Yes	Yes	No	Dept. Meeting; Advising Sessions, Dept bulletin boards
Assessment Plan	Assessment Plan	No	Yes (url TBD)	Yes	Yes	No	Dept. Meeting; Advising Sessions, Dept bulletin boards

**Attach any rubrics or instrumentation that you plan to use for assessment of Program Learning Objectives**

<sup>1</sup> If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Dr. Mark Nicholas, Executive Director of Institutional Assessment at [mnicholas1@framingham.edu](mailto:mnicholas1@framingham.edu) or 508-626-4670

<sup>2</sup> Accredited programs can provide supplemental documents that indicate the answers to these questions as long as specific page references are provided in each cell of the tables in this form. When the answers are not accessible in that way, please cut and paste into your assessment plan.

*Credits: This Template was developed using ideas from templates developed at University of Rhode Island and University of Hawaii in Manoa.*