Annual Academic Assessment Report Cover Sheet
Assessment reports are due the 1st Wednesday after the Fall Term
Email to: assessment@unlv.edu

Program Information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Assessed</th>
<th>Criminal Justice Master's Degree Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td>College</td>
<td>Urban Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department Chair</td>
<td>Dr. Joel D. Lieberman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment Coordinator</td>
<td>Dr. Tamara D. Madensen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date Submitted</td>
<td>05/15/2017</td>
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Contact Person for This Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Tamara Madensen</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>702-895-5903</td>
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<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Tamara.Madensen@unlv.edu">Tamara.Madensen@unlv.edu</a></td>
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Please attach a narrative (not to exceed 4 pages, excluding appendices) addressing the following:

- What are the student learning outcomes? Please provide a numbered list.
- Which learning outcomes were assessed?
- How were they assessed? (Programs must use at least one direct assessment of student learning.)
- Undergraduate programs should assess at least one University Undergraduate Learning Outcome (UULO) each year, which may or may not overlap with a program learning outcome.
- Graduate programs should assess at least one outcome related to one of the following graduate level requirements each year:
  - student engagement in research, scholarship, creative expression and/or appropriate high-level professional practice.
  - activities requiring originality, critical analysis and expertise.
  - the development of extensive knowledge in the field under study.
- What was learned from the assessment results?
- How did the program respond to what was learned?

Please limit the narrative portion of your report to no more than four pages. You may attach appendices with data, tables, charts, or other materials as needed. Please explain the relevant conclusions from any appendices in your narrative. Please contact the Office of Academic Assessment if you have questions or need assistance.
**Student Learning Outcomes**

The following are the student learning outcomes associated with the professional and traditional tracks of the criminal justice master’s program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional Track</th>
<th>Traditional Track</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1(a). Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of the nature of crime.</td>
<td>1(b). Demonstrate advanced theoretical knowledge of the nature of crime, and understanding regarding patterns of criminal activity.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2(a). Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of criminal justice institutions and processes, and current criminal justice policy.</td>
<td>2(b). Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of the law and the legal system, as well as decision-making in the criminal justice process, the social and political context of the legal system, important constitutional issues, and how criminal law differs from other forms of law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3(a). Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of research methods, statistics and program evaluation techniques.</td>
<td>3(b). Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of criminal justice institutions and processes, and current criminal justice policy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4(a). Demonstrate advanced knowledge and skills necessary to effectively conduct and/or evaluate social policy research in criminal justice related organizations.</td>
<td>4(b). Demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of research methods, statistics and program evaluation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5(a). Demonstrate enhanced knowledge, skills, and performance among practitioners already employed in federal, state, and local criminal justice organizations.</td>
<td>5(b). Demonstrate the basic theoretical, empirical, and substantive knowledge and skills required for education at the doctoral level, teaching at the community college level, or for research and social policy positions in criminal justice related fields.</td>
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**Outcome Assessment**

Learning outcomes for each track (professional and traditional) are assessed through successful completion of the program’s course curricula. The following table lists each required course, the learning objectives assessed within each (see the numbering system used in the previous table), and course completion results.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Instrument and Expected Measures</th>
<th>LO(s) Assessed</th>
<th>Results</th>
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</table>
| Successful completion of CRJ 700 - Pro-seminar in criminal justice | 1(a), 2(a), 5(a), 1(b), 3(b), 5(b) | # Passing: 14/14
#>=B: 14/14
Overall class GPA: 3.91 |
| Successful completion of CRJ 701 - Criminological theory | 1(a), 2(a), 5(a), 1(b), 3(b), 5(b) | # Passing: 15/15
#>=B: 12/15
Overall class GPA: 3.55 |
| Successful completion of CRJ 702 - Research methods | 3(a), 4(a), 5(a), 4(b), 5(b) | # Passing: 6/6
#>=B: 5/6
Overall class GPA: 3.52 |
| Successful completion of CRJ 703 - Statistics | 3(a), 4(a), 5(a), 4(b), 5(b) | # Passing: 8/8
#>=B: 5/8
Overall class GPA: 3.30 |
| Successful completion of CRJ 704 - Law and social control | (2b), 3(b), 5(b) | # Passing: 3/3
#>=B: 3/3
Overall class GPA: 4.00 |
| Successful completion of CRJ 705 - Administration of justice | 1(a), 2(a), 5(a), 1(b), 2(b), 3(b), 5(b) | # Passing: 14/14
#>=B: 14/14
Overall class GPA: 3.93 |
| Successful completion of CRJ 715 - Criminal justice policy | 1(a), 2(a), 3(a), 5(a) | # Passing: 11/11
#>=B: 11/11
Overall class GPA: 3.91 |
| Successful completion of CRJ 796 - Comprehensive examination | 1(a), 2(a), 3(a), 4(a), 5(a) | Four students took the comprehensive exam in 2015 – four students passed the exam. |
| Successful completion of CRJ 797 - Master’s thesis | 1(b), 2(b), 3(b), 4(b), 5(b) | All students enrolled in thesis credits made satisfactory progress toward their thesis or successfully completed their thesis. |

**Selected graduate level requirement assessment:**

Activities requiring originality, critical analysis and expertise.

**Professional Track**

All students who were asked to demonstrate originality of thought, critical analysis of policy issues, and expertise in theory and evaluation in the 2015 compressive examinations successfully passed this assessment.

**Traditional Track**

Milaikeaala S.J. Heen successfully completed her thesis and was the recipient of:
- College of Urban Affairs Outstanding Thesis Award
- 2015 UNLV Outstanding Thesis Award
Assessment Conclusion and Response

Three major conclusions were drawn from this assessment:

1. Course completion rates suggest that the department is successfully helping students to achieve the program’s learning objectives. There was a 100% passing rate for students who completed required program courses in 2015.

2. Students are challenged most in CRJ 701 (theory), CRJ 702 (research methods), and CRJ 703 (statistics), as reflected by these courses overall class GPAs.

3. Students are performing particularly well in activities that require demonstration of originality, critical analysis, and expertise.

The department has responded to these conclusions by continuing to provide assessment feedback to faculty, particularly those teaching CRJ 701, 702, and 703, to encourage more intensive classroom and outside support for students enrolled in these courses.