

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIOLOGY ANNUAL ASSESSMENT PLAN & FINDINGS
2014-2015 ACADEMIC YEAR**

2014 – 2015 CURRICULUM MAP

	PLO 1 Demonstrate a knowledge of basic sociological concepts.	PLO 2 Apply major sociological theoretical perspectives.	PLO 3 Explain the methodologies of collecting and assessing data that the discipline of sociology offers.	PLO 4 Assess the quality of sociological research by applying the standards of the discipline.	PLO 5 Analyze critically major sociological issues.	PLO 6 Demonstrate an appreciation for cultural and social diversity.
<i>SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology</i>	I	I	I	I	I	
<i>SOC 203: Social Problems</i>	R	R				R
<i>SOC 315: Cross-Cultural Perspectives</i>						R
<i>SOC 308: Racial and Ethnic Groups</i>	R	R		R	R	R
<i>PSY 325: Statistics for the Behavioral and Social Sciences</i>		R	R			
<i>SOC 333: Research Methods</i>			R	R		
<i>PSY 326: Research Methods</i>						
<i>SOC 304: Social Gerontology</i>				R	R	M
<i>SOC 320: Public Policy and Social Services</i>					R	R
<i>SOC 490: Social Science Capstone</i>	M	M	M	M	M	M

I (Introduced), R (Reinforced), or M (Mastered).

ANNUAL ASSESSMENT PLAN FINDINGS					
PLO 1 - Demonstrate a knowledge of basic sociological concepts.					
MEASURE	ACCEPTABLE TARGET	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENT RECORDS MEETING ACCEPTABLE TARGET	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENT RECORDS OBSERVED	ASSESSMENT RESULTS: PERCENTAGE OF STUDENT RECORDS MEETING ACCEPTABLE TARGET	ASSESSMENT RESULTS: 1. EXCEEDS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET 2. MEETS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET 3. DOES NOT MEET THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET 4. INSUFFICIENT DATA
Direct Measure 1: SOC 101 Research Paper	80% of students must receive a basic, proficient, or distinguished evaluation on relevant content criteria mapped to this PLO.	105	126	83.33%	1. EXCEEDS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET

Direct Measure 2: SOC 203 Final Paper	80% of students must receive a basic, proficient, or distinguished evaluation on relevant content criteria mapped to this PLO.	794	896	88.62%	1. EXCEEDS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET
PLO 2 - Apply major sociological theoretical perspectives.					
MEASURE	ACCEPTABLE TARGET	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENT RECORDS MEETING ACCEPTABLE TARGET	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENT RECORDS OBSERVED	ASSESSMENT RESULTS: PERCENTAGE OF STUDENT RECORDS MEETING ACCEPTABLE TARGET	ASSESSMENT RESULTS: 1. EXCEEDS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET 2. MEETS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET 3. DOES NOT MEET THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET 4. INSUFFICIENT DATA

Direct Measure 1: SOC 101 Research Paper	80% of students must receive a basic, proficient, or distinguished evaluation on relevant content criteria mapped to this PLO.	360	404	89.11%	1. EXCEEDS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET
Direct Measure 2: SOC 490 Capstone Research Paper	80% of students must receive a basic, proficient, or distinguished evaluation on relevant content criteria mapped to this PLO.	163	218	74.77%	3. DOES NOT MEET THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET

PLO 3 - Explain the methodologies of collecting and assessing data that the discipline of sociology offers.

MEASURE	ACCEPTABLE TARGET	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENT RECORDS MEETING ACCEPTABLE TARGET	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENT RECORDS OBSERVED	ASSESSMENT RESULTS: PERCENTAGE OF STUDENT RECORDS MEETING ACCEPTABLE TARGET	ASSESSMENT RESULTS: 1. EXCEEDS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET 2. MEETS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET 3. DOES NOT MEET THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET
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					4. INSUFFICIENT DATA
Direct Measure 1: PSY 326 Research Paper	80% of students must receive a basic, proficient, or distinguished evaluation on relevant content criteria mapped to this PLO.	165	192	85.94%	2. MEETS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET
PLO 4 - Assess the quality of sociological research by applying the standards of the discipline.					
MEASURE	ACCEPTABLE TARGET	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENT RECORDS MEETING ACCEPTABLE TARGET	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENT RECORDS OBSERVED	ASSESSMENT RESULTS: PERCENTAGE OF STUDENT RECORDS MEETING ACCEPTABLE TARGET	1. EXCEEDS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET 2. MEETS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET 3. DOES NOT MEET THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET 4. INSUFFICIENT DATA

Direct Measure 1: SOC 203 Final Research Paper	80% of students must receive a basic, proficient, or distinguished evaluation on relevant content criteria mapped to this PLO.	184	197	93.40%	1. EXCEEDS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET
Direct Measure 2: SOC 304 Research Paper	80% of students must receive a basic, proficient, or distinguished evaluation on relevant content criteria mapped to this PLO.	177	201	88.06%	1. EXCEEDS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET
Direct Measure 3: SOC 333 Final Paper	80% of students must receive a basic, proficient, or distinguished evaluation on relevant content criteria mapped to this PLO.	N/A	N/A	N/A	4. INSUFFICIENT DATA
PLO 5 - Analyze critically major sociological issues.					
MEASURE	ACCEPTABLE TARGET	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENT RECORDS MEETING ACCEPTABLE TARGET	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENT RECORDS OBSERVED	ASSESSMENT RESULTS: PERCENTAGE OF STUDENT RECORDS MEETING	ASSESSMENT RESULTS: 1. EXCEEDS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET

				ACCEPTABLE TARGET	2. MEETS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET 3. DOES NOT MEET THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET 4. INSUFFICIENT DATA
Direct Measure 1: SOC 203 Final Paper	80% of students must receive a basic, proficient, or distinguished evaluation on relevant content criteria mapped to this PLO.	592	672	88.09%	1. EXCEEDS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET
PLO 6 - Demonstrate an appreciation for cultural and social diversity.					
MEASURE	ACCEPTABLE TARGET	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENT RECORDS MEETING ACCEPTABLE TARGET	TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENT RECORDS OBSERVED	ASSESSMENT RESULTS: PERCENTAGE OF STUDENT RECORDS MEETING ACCEPTABLE TARGET	ASSESSMENT RESULTS: 1. EXCEEDS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET 2. MEETS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET

					3. DOES NOT MEET THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET 4. INSUFFICIENT DATA
Direct Measure 1: SOC 308 Final Research Paper	80% of students must receive a basic, proficient, or distinguished evaluation on relevant content criteria mapped to this PLO.	921	1004	91.73%	1. EXCEEDS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET
Direct Measure 2: SOC 315 Research Paper	80% of students must receive a basic, proficient, or distinguished evaluation on relevant content criteria mapped to this PLO.	548	594	92.25%	1. EXCEEDS THE ACCEPTABLE TARGET

OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS

Across program learning outcomes, BA Sociology students exceeded all except one of the acceptable targets (PLO 2, SOC 490 Research Paper) for the 2014-15 assessment measures. However, students did not meet the ideal targets for any of the 2014-15 assessment measures.

Overall, it is recommended that College of Liberal Arts Faculty review the assessment plans including measures used, targets set, and the curriculum map in preparation for the 2015-16 assessment cycle to ensure they remain appropriate and meaningful. Specifically, it is recommended that:

- Faculty review and possibly revise the targets set for key assignments due to the fact that the ideal targets are not being achieved.

o It is suggested that the acceptable and ideal targets be adjusted to include the same baseline (i.e. “basic, proficient, distinguished” or just “proficient and distinguished”) and have the percentage of students who meet the target be the differentiating component of the targets.

- The Faculty closely review the key assignments in the assessment plan to ensure these measures prove mastery of each PLO to which they are aligned.
- The number of measures for each PLO is limited to a minimum of one and a maximum of three.

As of December 31, 2015, all courses are now Waypoint enabled; therefore, it is also recommended that the Faculty discontinue using End of Course Survey results as indirect measures of PLOs. EOCS do not measure applicable data, but measure student opinions and are not appropriately measuring mastery of the identified PLOs. It is strongly recommended that alternative key assignments are used in place of EOCS results.

ANNUAL ASSESSMENT PLAN ACTION ITEM STATUS REPORT				
OUTCOME	MEASURE	KEY/RESPONSIBLE PERSONNEL	STATUS	ANTICIPATED DATE OF COMPLETION
5	<i>Gain approval of a new set of 5 BAS program learning outcomes</i>	<i>Program Chair</i>	<i>Complete</i>	<i>March 2016</i>
<i>Action Details</i>	<p><i>Gain approval of a new set of 5 BAS program learning outcomes which support and influence a focus on critical analysis and culture and diversity appreciation which is introduced early and reinforced throughout the program.</i></p> <p><i>While the assessments for SOC203 (PLO5) and SOC308 and SOC315 (PLO6) exceeded ‘Acceptable’ targets, each has a way to go to reach their ideal. The challenge of this is that critical assessment of sociological problems and an appreciation of cultural and social diversity (the tenets of PLOs 5 and 6) are integral measures of development for any Sociology major and as such should be introduced very early in the program, and reinforced from an early stage as well. Courses at the 300 level should be exhibiting a higher cultural and diversity competence than they currently are. This suggests a need to change the foundations of the major to focus and clarify the key expectations of learning in the</i></p>			

	<p><i>program and provides the opportunity to strengthen the BAS curriculum to more impressively exceed critical analysis aims as well as culture and diversity aims.</i></p> <p><i>These changes are specifically called for from an assessment of the key measures for each PLO, namely the PLO5 SOC203 Final Paper findings and PLO6 SOC308 and SOC315 Final Paper findings. While SOC203 may be an early stage assessment for critical analysis, the goal is targeted in a way to be inclusive of basic level of competence. In SOC308 and SOC315, being at the 300 level, these courses should be exhibiting higher levels of competence in culture and diversity appreciation.</i></p>
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