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Fall 2014

Sociology Discipline 3-Year Assessment Plan 2014-2017

Sociology Discipline

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	University of Minnesota, Morris Academic Program Assessment Plan
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Academic Program: sociology

Academic Division: Social Science

Program Contact:

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In the space below, list your Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs):

- (1) Students comprehend topics of diversity and multiculturalism through the study of societies across various contexts and time periods.
- (2) Students learn sociological principles and perspectives with applications to social issues.
- (3) Students learn to think critically through readings and analysis of a variety of primary and secondary source materials.
- (4) Students gain competency in sociological research methods and sociological theories with applications to contemporary societies and social problems.
- (5) Students learn to communicate their ideas effectively in writing and through oral presentation.
- (6) Students comprehend ethical principles germane to conducting sociological research, analyzing data, and presenting and disseminating results and conclusions through academic readings and presentations and through independent research projects of students' own design.

Enter Academic Program Name: sociology				
Program Student Learning Outcome(s) to be assessed	How will you measure the outcome?	Where will the data be collected and by whom?	When will the data be collected?	Overlap with CSLOs?*
2014-15 Program Student Learning Outcomes 1 and 2	Over the course of academic year 2014-15, the discipline will work collectively to assess the range of courses offered (and proposed) for the period 2012-2016. We will examine syllabi for all courses to ascertain how well we are meeting our goal of breadth within the limits of our disciplinary staffing and expertise. This assessment will inform our discipline's hiring plan and priorities beyond 2015. The data will be collected across the course of the academic year, with a report to the Division Chair completed by May 2015.			This PSLO overlaps with the following CSLOs: 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3; 2.1, 2.2, and 2.4; and 3.2.
2015-16 Program Student Learning Outcome 3	Over the course of academic year 2015-16, the discipline will work collectively to assess the multiple ways in which we teach students to think critically. We will choose five examples from courses across the curriculum which illustrate our various techniques and create assessment tools for each of the five examples. The assessment tools will be used at the first available opportunity and at least two of the examples will come from classes taught during 2015-16, in order to acquire some data quickly. A report to the Division Chair will be completed by May 2016, outlining the assessment we were able to complete during the 2015-16 year and our plan for continuing assessment of the critical thinking components of our curriculum.			This PSLO overlaps with the following CSLOs: 1.1 and 1.3; 2.2; 3.1, 3.2, and 3.5; and 4.2 and 4.3.
2016-17 Program Student Learning Outcomes 4, 5, and 6	This assessment will focus on three of our required courses: SOC 3103 - Research Methodology in Sociology, SOC 3403 - Sociological Theory, and SOC 4991 - Sociology Independent Project Seminar. The latter is the major's capstone course, through which students prepare for and complete an original research project. These three courses include significant writing components, as well as both oral and written presentation of final projects. Faculty assigned to these courses will develop appropriate assessment tools for the three PSLOs in question, which will be tailored to academic year 2016-17's topics and timing.			These PSLOs overlap with the following CSLOs: 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3; 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, and 2.7; 3.2 and 3.5; 4.1, 4.2, and 4.3.

*Your PSLOs need not overlap with CSLOs, but if your PSLO does reinforce or overlap with a CSLO, please report that information.

Please report any other planned assessment for your academic program in the space below: