

## Criminal Justice BA/BS/MS Program

### Annual Program Report

Year:	2021-2022
Program:	Criminal Justice
Contact Person (include email & phone#)	Cheng-Hsien Lin, <a href="mailto:chlin@lamar.edu">chlin@lamar.edu</a> , 409-880-8339

#### Summary of Continuous Improvement Efforts since Last Report

*Provide a brief description of how assessment results have been used for program improvement. Point to a specific example of how an assessment provided the program with data it could use for improvement and what that improvement was, if possible, also show evidence of the improvement. You may look at data from the two previous academic years to support this case.*

Respond here: 1. Reviewing course rotations and schedules to make sure the program offers comprehensive and pathways for student success.

2. Syllabi reviews to include course content and assignments that could help accomplishment of student learning goals and outcomes in critical thinking and planning analysis.

3. Building and expanding internship opportunities for senior students.

4. Emphasis on ethical and professional codes as future CJ professionals.

#### Program Highlights Since Last Report

*Identify and briefly discuss any programmatic curriculum changes made since the last report (e.g. new courses, course changes, SLO changes, course deletions).*

Respond here: 1. New course rotation between semesters to ensure students could complete the BA/BS degree in 4 years, and master's degree in one year.

2. New redesigned courses to achieve the program student learning outcomes.

3. SLO were completely updated from those in the prior years. The current SLO could better show what LU CJ program's strengths and areas to be improved.

4. A holistic view of the program courses, faculty expertise and student expectations are taken into consideration when any changes are discussed and implemented into the program. Collective efforts among faculty members and students' needs help the program stay in the front of competing regional CJ programs in the Texas.

**Table 1. Assessment Results and Analyses for Current Cycle.**

STAGE 1: PLAN				STAGE 2: DO		STAGE 3: STUDY
Departmental Student Learning Goal	Program Student Learning Outcome	Assessment	Assessment Method/Location	Benchmark Expectations	Data Results	Actions/Goals Based on Data Results* What do the data tell you? How will you use this data? How were data from the last cycle used to make changes during this cycle, and What were the results of those changes?
To prepare students able to differentiate between the functions of the three components of the criminal justice system in the United States.	Students have knowledge in the three components of criminal justice systems and can use technology effectively in the fields.	Undergraduate and graduate courses in three components of criminal justice system are required and rotated annually to allow comprehensive training for students.	Semester class schedules and mid-range course rotation carousel.	No more than 1 (each program) of the following courses omitted in an academic year: Undergraduate: CRIJ 1306, CRIJ 2313, CRIJ 3238, CRIJ 3300, and CRIJ 3380. Graduate: CRIJ 5310, CRIJ 5322, and CRIJ 5323.	CRIJ 1306, CRIJ 2313, CRIJ 3380 and CRIJ 5310 were offered twice in each semester of the academic year of 2021-2022, while CRIJ 3300, and CRIJ 5323 were offered once in the year. CRIJ 5322 was not offered until Summer 2022.	The course rotation in 2021-2022 was mostly done well with only one of the targeted courses not being offered. The passing rates of these courses were all beyond 85%. The future course rotation will make effort to have these courses offered at least once per year.
To prepare students learning and analyzing criminal acts, their elements, and application to the criminal justice system.	Students can conduct evidence-based analyses with critical thinking and problem-solving skills.	Upper-level and graduate courses require analytical assignments for developing the skills.	-Syllabi from upper-level undergraduate and graduate course syllabi. -Required courses passing rates.	Several required upper-level undergraduate (CRIJ 3311, CRIJ 4321, and CRIJ 4380), and graduate courses (CRIJ 5320 CRIJ 5331) have the assignment for the evaluation in terms of their passing rate of 80%.	All listed courses offered in 2021-2022 had passing rate of 85% or higher.	The targeted courses have the assignments needed for evaluation of the learning goals and outcomes. It would be better to identify how each course assignment could demonstrate the effectiveness of the expected learning outcomes. The works will need further analysis from instructors' student data.

To equip students' knowledges for the criminal justice career.	Students have content knowledge in the field and the necessary skills, both academic and practical, for a successful career in their chosen fields.	Practicum courses are offered to require internship in the undergraduate program. Graduate classes require academic or practical analysis assignments that help student' for career related analytical skills (high percentage of our graduate students are full-time works in the CJ field.)	-Students' placement rate in off-campus internship. -Sample Graduate course assignments passing rates.	Placement rate (90% or higher) and passing rate (90% or higher) in CRIJ 4340 Criminal Justice Application (internship) and CRIJ 4313 Practicum in Policing (PIP).	The internship placement rate through CRIJ 4340 Criminal Justice Application was nearly perfect. In 2021-2022, The passing rate (pass/non-pass grades) is high too. CRIJ 4313 Practicum in Policing is only offered in Summer. In summer 2022, all 15 students passed the courses (including at-field training).	Both CRIJ 4340 and CRIJ 4313 PIP were relatively new courses in the LU CJ program. They have built a strong professional network in the Southeast Texas criminal justice offices, from Federal, State, and local offices. We expect the courses and the professional networks will continue to propel our students interest in the career of criminal justice and help them to land a career in and out of the community.
To prepare students to be personally and socially responsible citizens.	Students can appreciate different ideas, perspectives, cultures, and viewpoints presented by different disciplines contributed to studies of criminal justice.	Course materials that examine various cultural and social factors influence (criminal) behaviors are emphasized through some CJ courses. Students' involvement in student organization, community services, and	-Degree plans that require students taking courses have differentiate orientations and these courses are rotated annually. CRIJ 4311 Ethical Issues, CRIJ 4310 Social Justice CRIJ 5340 Social Justice (graduate) are	Undergraduate and graduate degree plans are reviewed annually to have CRIJ 4311, CRIJ 4310, and CRIJ 5340 (Social Justice) offered at least once a year with passing rate of 80% or higher. Face-to-face program student organizations are active with	The listed courses are offered to CJ students to ensure they will behave like what a CJ professional is expected. These courses had passing rates at least 85% in 2021-2022 classes, which showed students should have a good	It might be important to find additional data to demonstrate if students do become a responsible citizen after their successful completion of the targeted courses. The current could only show that the current CJ program offer important courses that could help reach the program goals. Additional data may be discussed in the program.

		community outreach projects beyond the classroom.	offered annually. -Support and encourage students to involve in three CJ student organizations in the program.	planned activities.	understanding of the ethical expectations in the field. Student organizations were not as active in 2021-2022 due to Pandemic but they still exercised regular meetings.	

**Table 2. Continuous Improvement Results Since Last Report**

<b>Stage 4: ACT</b>		
<b>Actions/Goals Based on Data Results</b> <i>*Copy last cycle's actions/goals and report on progress toward continuous improvement on those here.</i>	<b>Status</b> <i>C=Complete P=Progressing N=No Action Taken</i>	<b>Discussion of Status</b> <i>If C, describe efforts that led to accomplishment of actions/goals. If P, provide update on progress made toward accomplishing actions/goals and what tasks remain If N, discuss why action toward accomplishing actions/goals has been delayed and what work will be initiated toward accomplishment.</i>
Annual review of program course rotation and degree plans.	Complete	Class schedule review and plan is critical for the success.
Reminding instructors reviewing the syllabi of targeted courses to reflect the learning goals and outcomes.	Complete	Course content design were heavily debt to instructors' effort for reaching student learning goals and outcomes.
Maintain and expand the criminal justice career network locally and possibly beyond the southeast Texas region.	Complete	A strong and well-main professional CJ network and well-prepared students are key for the accomplishment of goals.
Ideas of increasing students' awareness of being responsible CJ professionals were emphasized through program activities like summer 2022 FBI domestic terrorism workshop held on campus were opened to CJ students to learn and observe good role models in the fields. Faculty mentoring student organizations were encouraged. Activities initiated and operated by student organizations have been increased since Fall 2022.	Complete and seek for additional data	The expectations of being a CJ professional are highly regarded in the program and classes. Any wayward behavior is identified and asked for being corrected. Such an effort might be difficult to be documented but might be done in the future. Our program has good interactions between faculty and students. Appreciations to any faculty and students should be identified and expressively acknowledged. It improve the program climates in all ways.