



## COLLEGE FOR DESIGN & SOCIAL INQUIRY

### Student Learning Outcomes Assessment

**CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Declarative Knowledge):** Graduates in Criminology and Criminal Justice will demonstrate an understanding of basic concepts, theories, theorists, and research findings in three core areas:

**Criminology:** History and philosophy of law, crime, and criminal codes; survey of major theories and theorists, including classical school, positive school, choice theories, trait theories, social process theories, social structure theories, conflict theory, and integrated theories.

**Research Methods:** Understanding and applying the basic principles of scientific methodology including the nature of scientific explanation, issues relating to reliability and validity, the limitations of measurement scales, hypothesis testing, and the interpretation of correlational and experimental data.

**Ethics and the Justice System:** Introduction to theories in ethics and the exploration of a variety of ethical/moral issues that characterize and define the different facets of criminology and criminal justice policy and practice.

All majors will complete CCJ 3014 (Criminology), CCJ 4700 (Methods of Research in Criminal Justice), and CCJ 4054 (Ethics in Criminal Justice). Master syllabi for these courses are available from the school office and include a list of student learning outcomes to be addressed in all sections of the course and the types of course assignments and examinations that will be used to assess student proficiency on these learning outcomes.

**COMMUNICATION (Written communication):** Graduates in Criminology and Criminal Justice will be able to produce writing that is grammatically correct, well-organized, and properly formatted.

Students will be required to complete the university's Writing Across the Curriculum program to demonstrate general writing skills. Students will also be required to demonstrate competency in communication skills by completing a writing assignment as part of their CCJ 4054 class (Ethics in Criminal Justice).

**CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Research Skills) and CRITICAL THINKING (Analytical Skills):** Graduates in Criminology and Criminal Justice will use critical thinking to evaluate information and data related to criminological and criminal justice processes by applying basic principles of scientific methodology including (1) the nature of scientific explanations, (2) issues relating to reliability and validity, (3) the limitations of measurement scales, (4) the use of experimental and quasi-experimental designs to test hypotheses and (5) the proper interpretation of correlational and experimental data.

Performance on examinations in CCJ 4700 (Research Methods) will be used to assess students' understanding and application of these concepts.