Assessment Plan

Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

Bachelor of Science Program

**Program Goals and Rationale:**

The purpose of the B.S. degree is to provide professional education for those interested in careers in: Adult and juvenile probation and parole supervision and administration; Adult and juvenile correctional institutional work (classification); Adult and juvenile institutional program management; Juvenile delinquency prevention and control programs in the community; Law enforcement at the federal, state, and local level; and Police-community relations, juvenile work and police personnel and training activities. More specifically the program has the following as its goals:

1. To instill in students the value of research and necessity to discover new knowledge to provide opportunities for students to engage the community and solve problems.
2. To provide students with the opportunity to obtain a sound liberal arts education.
3. To provide students with the skills to understand current research and write reports.
4. To provide students with knowledge about criminal behavior, the criminal justice system, and the relationship of these phenomena to the larger society in which they exist.
5. To prepare students for careers in the criminal justice field as well as for entry into law school or a graduate program in criminology or a related discipline.
6. To equip students with written and oral communication skills applicable to the field of criminal justice.
7. To develop critical thinking skills.
8. To prepare students to recognize and act on professional and ethical challenges that arise in criminal justice.

**Program Educational Objectives and Outcomes:**

Objective 1: Students will demonstrate knowledge about criminal behavior.

Objective 1 Outcomes:

1. To demonstrate the ability to identify causes/predictors of criminal behavior.
2. To demonstrate the ability to develop research based responses to crime (e.g., strategies and policies).

Objective 2: Students will demonstrate knowledge about the criminal justice system.

Objective 2 Outcomes:

1. To identify components of the various criminal justice agencies.
2. To identify the interrelated aspects of the various criminal justice agencies.
3. To identify the process of policy development.
4. To identify the various agency subcultures.
5. To identify the impact of agency subcultures on policy development.

Objective 3: To demonstrate written and oral communication skills applicable to the field of criminal justice.

Objective 3 Outcomes:

1. Interact with others.
2. Provide information orally.
3. Provide written information.
4. Establish collaborative relationships.

Objective 4: To demonstrate critical thinking skills.

Objective 4 Outcomes:

1. Identify and analyze current issues and practices in criminal justice.
2. Apply a scientifically supported theoretical premise to current criminal justice issues.
3. Develop a policy based on scientifically supported research.
4. Identify best practices in criminal justice.
5. Analyze current research methodologies.

Objective 5: To demonstrate knowledge ethical challenges arising in criminal justice.

Objective 5 Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate the ability to identify ethical situations based on discipline code of ethics.
2. Demonstrate ability to analyze ethical situations.

Objective 6: Engage in and meaningfully contribute to diverse and complex communities and professional environments.

Objective 6 Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate ability to complete professional documents.
2. Demonstrate ability to apply theories and best practices to real-world scenarios.
3. Demonstrate the ability to identify agency and community needs.
4. Demonstrate the ability to work with people from diverse backgrounds.
5. Demonstrate the ability to respond to identified agency and community needs.