# 2022-2023
# Criminal Justice PhD

## Develop the Next Generation of Scholars in Criminal Justice and Criminology

**Goal Description:**

Provide students with the research skills needed to develop into the next generation of scholars in criminal justice and criminology

**Providing Department:** Criminal Justice PhD

**Doctoral Students Will Be Able To Conduct Original Criminal Justice And Criminology Research Learning Objective Description:**

Students completing the Ph.D. program will demonstrate the ability to produce original research by integrating knowledge, skills, and abilities learned throughout the program.
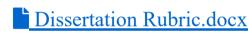
**Successful Completion Of The Dissertation**

**Indicator Description:**

Successful completion of an original research study as demonstrated by the defense of a Dissertation using a faculty-developed rubric. The rubric uses a 1 (insignificant) to 5 (critically significant) rating of specific criteria each dissertation should address. These criteria include: choice of problem, theoretical framework, mode of inquiry, execution of study, interpretation of results, analysis, written presentation, originality of idea and/or approach, and contribution to the field.

Attached Files

📄 Dissertation Rubric.docx

**Criterion Description:**

Students will demonstrate their ability to engage in an original research study within the field of criminal justice and criminology. At minimum, a dissertation prospectus will include a literature review of relevant empirical literature and a well-defined and defensible methodology. The final dissertation will include the statistical analysis appropriate to the methodology described, and the contextualization of the study results within the existing literature. Students defending their final dissertation will receive a score of 80% or above on each of the 9 elements outlined in the dissertation rubric.

**Findings Description:**

Findings for AY 2022-2023 indicate that two of the six students who defended their dissertations scored below the 80% threshold for various indicators. Both students also fell below the 80% threshold for overall score (60% & 73%). All other students scored a minimum of 4/5 (80%) on all nine indicators. The average scores are listed below in descending order:

| | |
|---|---|
| Written Presentation | 4.50 |
| Choice of Problem | 4.33 |
| Execution of Study | 4.33 |
| Interpretation of Results | 4.33 |
| Analysis | 4.33 |
| Theoretical Framework | 4.17 |
| Mode of Inquiry | 4.17 |
| Originality of Idea and/or Approach | 4.17 |
| Contribution to the Field | 4.17 |

The average was highest for Written Presentation (4.5) while Theoretical Framework, Mode of Inquiry, Originality of Idea and/or Approach, and Contribution to the Field averaged the lowest with 4.17.

Attached Files

📄 Dissertation rubric results.xlsx

**RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3**

**Successful Completion Of The Dissertation**

**Action Description:**

Program will continue to review disaggregated data from dissertation rubric to identify trends among the rubric categories.

**RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2**

**Successful Defense Of A Research Portfolio**

**Indicator Description:**

Doctoral students are required to submit and orally defend a portfolio of selected written research products that were developed during their tenure in the doctoral program to a panel of faculty members. The current policy states that the portfolio must contain at least two research articles that are deemed by the committee members as acceptable for submission for publication to a peer reviewed journal.

**Criterion Description:**

While the current policy states that the minimum requirement for a portfolio defense is two publishable articles, the Graduate Standards and Admissions Committee would like to start seeing Ph.D. students who are defending their portfolio have at least one paper either published or under review at a peer-reviewed journal at the time of the defense.

**Findings Description:**

Six PhD students defended their portfolios in AY 22-23. Of those 6 the breakdown for paper submissions and acceptances at the time of the defense were as follows:

Student #1: 1 accepted and 1 under review

Student #2: 2 papers under review

Student #3: 2 papers under review

Student #4: 1 under review

Student #5: 1 under review

Student #6: Could not be determined status of papers at time of defense. Expectations memo just stipulated 2 publishable manuscripts.

**RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3**

**Successful Defense Of A Research Portfolio**

**Action Description:**

Program will continue to review disaggregated data from portfolio submissions to identify trends across portfolio dossiers.

# Doctoral Teaching Fellows Provide Quality Classroom Teaching

**Goal Description:**

Enhance and develop student's ability to demonstrate high levels of teaching effectiveness.

**Providing Department:** Criminal Justice PhD

**Provide Effective Undergraduate Classroom Instruction**

**Learning Objective Description:**

Advanced doctoral students will develop and demonstrate their aptitude for providing high quality classroom instruction for undergraduate students.

**Faculty Observations**

**Indicator Description:**

Doctoral Teaching Fellows teaching face-to-face will be observed in the classroom by a faculty member using a faculty-developed rubric. Elements being evaluated include Preparation for Lecture, such as organization, content, subject knowledge, and use of Powerpoint as well as Delivery of Lecture, such as professionalism, eye contact, enthusiasm, vocal properties, classroom management, body language, and length of presentation.

**Criterion Description:**

Faculty observations of a DTF led lecture will be conducted using the faculty developed rubric. Students will obtain an average score of 80% or above on the overall rubric and on each of the elements.

**Findings Description:**

DTFs received a score of 80% or higher on all rubric elements. Faculty observations of DTFs during Fall 22 had an average rubric score of 93% for elements measuring lecture delivery and 96% for elements measuring lecture preparation, for an overall average score of 95%.

Attached Files

📄 DTF Faculty Observation Fall 22.xlsx

**Faculty Observations**

**Action Description:**

Doctoral Teaching Fellows teaching face-to-face will continue to be observed in the classroom by a faculty member using a faculty-developed rubric. Elements being evaluated include Preparation for Lecture, such as organization, content, subject knowledge, and use of Powerpoint as well as Delivery of Lecture, such as professionalism, eye contact, enthusiasm, vocal properties, classroom management, body language, and length of presentation.

**IDEA Evaluation Forms**

**Indicator Description:**

Student ratings of Doctoral Teaching Fellows using the Individual Developmental Education Assessment (IDEA) Evaluation forms.

**Criterion Description:**

Doctoral Teaching Fellows will perform at or above the similar/middle 40% box on the IDEA evaluation form. Summary Evaluation will be 4.0 or above for teaching evaluations on the following criteria 1. Progress on Relevant Objectives, 2. Excellent Teacher,

and 3. Excellent Course.

**Findings Description:**

Doctoral Teaching Fellows performed well on all sections taught during the fall 2022 and spring 2023 semesters with an average adjusted score of 4.55 on Progress on Relevant Objectives, 4.65 on Excellent Teacher, and 4.52 on Excellent Course.  Based on these results, the objective was met.

Attached Files
📄 AY22_23.xlsx

**IDEA Evaluation Forms**
**Action Description:**
Program will continue to review IDEA Evaluation forms for doctoral teaching fellows.

# Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement Item

**Previous Cycle's Plan For Continuous Improvement (Do Not Modify):**
**Closing Summary**


1. DTF teaching will continue to be evaluated through Faculty Observation and IDEA ratings review.
2. Dissertation data will continue to be collected.
3. Data from self-report surveys of former PhD students who have retained jobs will continue to be collected.  Information about what they were not prepared for and what they would have liked to have had more experience with will also be collected and used to improve the curriculum and graduate student opportunities.

**Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:**
Program has continued to collect data for PhD student teaching observations and dissertation completion rubrics. This AY an external program review of the PhD program will be conducted. As a part of this review, feedback from current and former students will be collected to gain their perspectives about program strengths and areas for improvement.

# New Plan for Continuous Improvement Item

**Closing Summary:**
1. DTF teaching will continue to be evaluated through Faculty Observation and IDEA ratings review.
2. Dissertation data will continue to be collected.
3. Portfolio outcome data will continue to be collected
4. Data from self-report surveys of former PhD students who have retained jobs will continue to be collected.  Information about what they were not prepared for and what they would have liked to have had more experience with will also be collected and used to improve the curriculum and graduate student opportunities.
5. Assessment recommendations derived from the external program review being conducted this AY will be incorporated into the assessment plan.