Online Assessment Tracking Database

Sam Houston State University (SHSU)
2014 - 2015

Criminal Justice, Homeland Security Studies MS

Goal	**Practical Application Of National Security Principles** 🔑
	Practical application of national security principles

Objective (L)	**Demonstrate Practical Solutions And Knowledge Base** 🔑
	Students completing the Master of Science degree in Homeland Security Studies will be able to provide comprehensive analysis and apply problem solving techniques to complex issues applicable to defense of the Homeland; particularly with respect to critical infrastructure protection and crisis management.

Indicator	**Successful Performance In Practical Exercises And Internship** 🔑
	Integration of theroetical approaches to problem solving with practical analytical solutions is a primary indicator of the success of the program's learning objectives. During the internship experience, security studies graduate students reoutinely recevie critiques and personal evaluations from both the facutly member monitoring the student (internship director) and the employer who supervises the student intern. In addition, students provide written progress reports during the internship process.

Criterion	**85% Of The Security Studies Students Will Score Greater Than 85% For Their Internship Practical Exercises** 🔑
	It is not enough to perform well in the classroom. Nearly each course students take in the Security Studies program requires successful completion of some measurable out-of-class project or outcome. Students will score greater than 85% on these practical excercises at the apex of their training experience during their internship.

Finding	**Successfull Completion Of Internship Requirements** 🔑
	Thirteen students completed interships and graduated from program in 2014/15.

Action	**Meeting Learning Outcome** DRAFT 🔑
	Students kept journals and submitted reports to the supervising faculty member. All exceeded 90% on these practical elements. 12 of 13 graduates obtained employment in homeland security related agencies or corporations.

Goal	**Demonstrate Core Knowledge Competency** 🔑
	Demonstrate that students are learning the core competency areas required in the field.

Objective (L)	**Demonstrate Knowledge And Integration Of Core Competencies** 🔑

Students graduating with a master's degree in Security Studies will demonstrate comprehensive knowledge and assessment of the major issues and pinciples related to Homeland Security.

Indicator   **Integrated Major Paper** 🔍

The Capstone course, CRIJ 6388, for Security Studies graduate students requires substantial research and integration of theories and principles of completed coursework in the program. The culminating project in this course requires students to state a Homeland Security or related issue and place it in context of the related security field. This paper requires a comprehensive literature reivew, analysis of the issue in relation to national threat, explanation of how the issue was reslolved, and how the issue may have been resolved differently. Through this anaylsis, core competencies in the field should be demonstrated.

Criterion   **A Score Of 80% On The Assessment Rubric** 🔍

The scoring rubric for the core competency project in the Capston course consists of four areas; 1) statement of the issue, 2) review of the salient literature, 3) appropriate sources cited, and 4) reflections of how the curriculum contribted to your abiltiy to solve the issue. Each student completing the capstone course will score 80% or higher on the rubric.

Finding   **Successfull Completion Of Capstone Requirement** 🔍

Thirteen students completed the Capstone Project during AY 2014/2015 and all exceeded 80% on the assessment rubric. Grading elements included the degree to which they were able to locate their project within the homeland security field, the quality of the overall work, and the professionalism of the required presentation.

There are no actions for this objective.

Previous Cycle's "Plan for Continuous Improvement"

As the new curriculum was put into place this last academic year, we will work to develop additional assessment methods of our student's learning and successful application of acquired knowledge.

Please detail the elements of your previous "Plan for Continuous Improvement" that were implemented. If elements were not implemented please explain why, along with any contextual challenges you may have faced that prevented their implementation.

The MS program underwent an external review during AY 2014/15. Among other issues, the reviewer recommended the following actions:

1. Whereas continuous enrollment in the online version is desirable, the face-to-face version should be administered as a cohort program.

2. Expand the use of adjunct professors who have both academic credentials and real world experience

Plan for Continuous Improvement - Please detail your plan for improvement that you have developed based on what you learned from your 2014 - 2015 Cycle Findings.

1. We are now administering the face-to-face program as a cohort program, which has eliminated sources of confusion for students

2. We have hired two adjunct professors who have both academic credentials and real world experience