

Criminal Justice MS

Develop Specific Knowledge Base

Goal Description:

Students will develop specific knowledge base in emergent issues in criminal justice and criminology to prepare graduates for positions in the field.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS-----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Master Of Science Students Will Be Able To Write A Professionally Oriented Literature Review To Demonstrate Workforce Preparedness

Learning Objective Description:

Students completing the M.S. program will demonstrate the necessary tools and knowledge to produce an review of the scholarly literature on three emerging criminal justice issue relevant to their area of interest in the criminal justice workforce or focusing on one emerging criminal justice issue relevant to the disciplinary agency of their choice (law enforcement, courts, or post-adjudication agencies).

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Rubric Evaluating A Selected Element Submitted As Part Of The Digital Portfolio

Indicator Description:

An academic integrative essay developed in the program’s capstone course CRIJ 6388 Emerging Issues in Criminal Justice Leadership is considered a an assessment of the student's integrated knowledge acquired through completion of all of the prior coursework required for the degree. Having completed all of the required courses for the program, students enrolled in CRIJ 6388 are now required to reflect on how their initial expectations of the program correspond with their final reflections of the program's contribution to their professional development. They will also identify how specific coursework completed throughout their program of study has assisted in their professional development.

Criterion Description:

Three required elements should be developed in the students' academic integrative essay: 1. identify the emergent issue in criminal justice and criminology, 2. discuss your academic development pertaining to this issue, and 3. theoretical applications of the paper. Each element is assessed using the attached rubric.

Findings Description:

All of the students enrolled in Emergent Issues in Criminal Justice Management completed portfolio projects including all elements of the rubric.

Insure Consistency in Management of Program

Goal Description:

In order to better facilitate the management and oversight of this program the Department is in the process of hiring a new clinical faculty member who will assume responsibility for oversight of our MS Online program.

Integration of Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

Goal Description:

Students completing the Master of Science in Criminal Justice will demonstrate integration of knowledge, skills and abilities through a digital research portfolio.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS-----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Demonstrate Competency In Emergent Issues In Criminal Justice And Criminology

Learning Objection Description:

As students prepare to graduate with a Master of Science in Criminal Justice, they will demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge, skills, and other abilities by successfully completing a digital portfolio. These portfolios will include identification of an emergent issue associated with the criminal justice system at large or associated with three emergent issues related to one of the sub-disciplines within criminal justice (police, courts, or post-adjudication agencies) , with integrative comments drawing from scholarly literature related to their issue(s), a summary of their professional development activities, and development of a web-based resource guide associated with salient emergent issue(s) selected by the student.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Digital Portfolio

Indicator Description:

A digital portfolio developed in the program’s capstone course, CJ 6388, Emergent Issues in Criminal Justice Leadership, is reviewed using a predetermined set of criteria (see attachment).

Criterion Description:

Students enrolled in CRIJ 6388 will submit a portfolio demonstrating leadership philosophy statement and management statement, an academic integrative essay, professional development activities, Myers-Briggs Indicator individual assessment, and the final portfolio.

Findings Description:

100% of the students enrolled in the Directed Management Project completed the assignment.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

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Findings Description:

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Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement

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

Student feedback identified a need to offer some of the program's classes on a shortened format so that students enrolled in the program can complete their classes in a 7.5 week time-frame rather than the conventional 15 week semester. This has allowed students to focus their attention on one class at a time rather than trying to balance their time over two or more classes. Since many of the students enrolled in this program are also working professionals it is necessary for us to accommodate their special needs.

It is also important for us to fine-tune the focus of the "directed management projects" being completed as the capstone for their program. We need to make sure the projects are timely and that they identify current issues facing the criminal and juvenile justice systems. A long range goal is for these classes to add to the general body of literature focusing on the improvement of justice system related activities. Accordingly, the material submitted for the "Directed Management Projects" being completed by the students enrolled in this program will be monitored by the College of Criminal Justice's Director of Practice Development for possible inclusion in a web-based resource center including references to projects related to professional development that are underway throughout the nation. Posting these resources will enhance the quality of professional services being offered throughout the nation.

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

As indicated in reports received by former students, we instituted a series of 7 1/2 week session to replace the traditional 15 week sessions. This has proven to be more conducive to student involvement and enhances their ability to focus on their classes.

No action has been taken to transfer responsibility for the Directed Management Projects to the Director of Practice Development. Instead, the Department is in the process of hiring a full time clinical faculty member to oversee this program of study. It is hoped that this position will be filled prior to the beginning of AY 2018-19. Until then, the staffing of our capstone class will be determined by the Department Chair and funding availability.

Strengthen Program Management and Oversight

Closing Summary:

In order to maintain this program's excellent standing it has been determined that we need to have a faculty member who will provide continuous oversight and leadership. Accordingly, the Department is in the process of interviewing applicants to fill a newly designed position to oversee this program.