

Victim Studies BA/BS

Competence in Oral Presentation Skills

Goal Description:

Exiting seniors will demonstrate competence in their oral presentation skills.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Improvement Of Oral Presentation Skills

Learning Objective Description:

Students will demonstrate oral communication competency in their required Problem Analysis in Victim Studies course (CRIJ 4398), with emphasis placed on clarity and organization, contact with audience, subject knowledge, use of visual aids, mechanics and inclusion of appropriate and relevant prior research.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Senior Level Capstone Course Oral Presentation

Indicator Description:

Senior Level Capstone Course Oral Presentation

Criterion Description:

Students will score at 70% or above on the oral presentation scoring presentation rubric used in CRIJ 4398.

Attached Files

 [CRIJ4398 Oral Pres Rubric](#)

Findings Description:

In the spring of 2017, twenty-nine students enrolled in the CRIJ 4398 (Problem Analysis in Victim Studies) course. Of those 29 students, all (or 100%) scored at 70% or above on the oral presentation grading rubric.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Action Plan for Enhancing Student Performance on Learning Objectives

Action Description:

The targets will increase during the next cycle. For the first learning objective ["Students will demonstrate oral communication competency in their required Problem Analysis in Victim Studies course (CRIJ 4398), with emphasis placed on clarity and organization, contact with audience, subject knowledge, use of visual aids, mechanics and inclusion of appropriate and relevant prior research"], students will continue to be assigned a separate score for each rubric domain. For the following domains (“Speaking Skills,” “Clarity and Organization,” “Contact with Audience,” “Subject Knowledge and Preparedness,” “Use of Visual Aids,” and “Mechanics”), a score of “17” will remain indicative of “excellent performance;” a score of “13” will remain indicative of “satisfactory performance;” a score of “9” will remain indicative of “minimally acceptable performance;” and a score of “5” will remain indicative of a “need for improvement.” For the final rubric domain (“Products Discussed”), a score of “45” will remain indicative of “excellent performance;” a score of “35” will remain indicative of “satisfactory performance;” a score of “25” will remain indicative of “minimally acceptable performance;” and a score of “15” will remain indicative of the student's “need for improvement.” In AY 2017-2018, the target for this learning objective will increase by 10 percent. (Students will score at 80% or above on the oral presentation grading rubric.) Cumulatively, students may earn 147 maximum points. To meet the 80% target, they will be required to score at least 118 points. For the second learning objective [“Exiting students will demonstrate their scientific writing ability in their required Problem Analysis in Victim Studies course (CRIJ 4398) with the following emphasized: structure and organization, writing and grammar, statement of the research purpose, and inclusion of appropriate and relevant prior research], students will continue to be assigned a separate score for each of the above domains. For both the “Introduction” and the “Conclusion,” students may earn up to 50 points. For both the “Overview and Background” and “Discussion,” students may earn up to 75 points. For the “References,” students may earn a maximum of 15 points. And, for the “Overall Paper Style,” students may earn up to 35 points. In AY 2017-2018, the target for the second learning objective will increase by 10 percent. (Students will score at 80% or above on the research paper grading rubric.) Cumulatively, students may earn a maximum of 300 points. To meet the 80% target, they

will be required to score at least 240 points. To enhance student performance on the above-listed learning objectives, the class will be encouraged to attend writing workshops, to work individually with Writing Center tutors, to consult with reference librarians, to submit rough drafts and incorporate the instructor's editing suggestions, to practice public speaking, and to utilize peer-review.

Competence in Scientific Writing Skills

Goal Description:

Exiting seniors will demonstrate competence in their scientific writing skills.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Improvement of Scientific Writing Skills

Learning Objective Description:

Exiting students will demonstrate their scientific writing ability in their required Problem Analysis in Victim Studies course (CRIJ 4398) with the following emphasized: structure and organization, writing and grammar, statement of the research purpose, and inclusion of appropriate and relevant prior research.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Senior Level Capstone Research Paper

Indicator Description:

Exiting seniors will write a research paper in CRIJ 4398.

Criterion Description:

Students will score at 70% or above on the research paper scoring rubric used in CRIJ 4398.

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 [CRIJ4398 Research Paper Rubric](#)

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Practical Application Of Knowledge

Goal Description:

Exiting seniors should demonstrate professional skills necessary to pursue employment in victim studies related areas and/or an advanced degree in victim studies or a related field, including comprehensive knowledge of various research strategies, communication and critical thinking skills.

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Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement

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

For the 2016-2017 academic year, continued emphasis will be placed on strengthening the VS BA/BS program. There has been a lot of change administratively that has impacted the progress of the VS undergraduate program. The department has a new chair and as a result, the responsibilities of the undergraduate program director have shifted. In the upcoming year, the Chair and Undergraduate Program Director will clarify who is responsible for overseeing the program's development.

The program continues to struggle with appointing a faculty or instructor who is primarily responsible for the program's capstone course (CRIJ 4398). The necessity of this course will be discussed by the Chair and Undergraduate Program Director.

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

During this assessment period, the Department Chair and the Undergraduate Program Director continued to engage in critical dialogue about the direction of the Victim Studies Program and the challenges specific to the Capstone course. As predicated, it was difficult to find faculty who were interested in teaching the course. Moving forward, they will continue to explore whether the Capstone is needed. After careful consideration of the VS program's administrative needs, a faculty member was appointed to oversee next year's assessment.

Plan for Continuous Improvement

Closing Summary:

As previously noted, a primary challenge with offering the Capstone course concerns instructor coverage. In the 2016-2017 academic year, CRIJ 4398 (Problem Analysis in Victim Studies) was taught by part-time instructors (a Doctoral Teaching Assistant and adjunct faculty.) For quality assurance purposes, a concerted effort was made to identify full-time faculty willing to teach the course. In the next academic year, it will be assigned to two tenured professors. A committee was recently convened to address Victim Studies program needs. In the next academic year, the committee chair will be responsible for all Victim Studies BA/BS program assessment. Such assessment is anticipated to include a more nuanced analysis of the grading rubric domains. The committee will consult with the Office for Academic Planning and Assessment to identify additional outcomes. Finally, the Department Chair and the Undergraduate Program Director will continue to engage in important dialogue about the direction of the Victim Studies program.