

## **Program Assessment Plan**

**Program: Masters of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice (MACCJ)** 

**Department: School of Social Work** 

**College/School: College for Public Health and Social Justice** 

Date: REVISED July 12, 2018; Submitted November 16, 2017

Primary Assessment Contact: Noelle Fearn, PhD, CCJ Programs Director

| # | Program Learning Outcomes  What do the program faculty expect all students to know, or be able to do, as a result of completing this program?  Note: These should be measurable, and manageable in number (typically 4-6 are sufficient). | Assessment Mapping From what specific courses (or other educational/professional experiences) will artifacts of student learning be analyzed to demonstrate achievement of the outcome? Include courses taught at the Madrid campus and/or online as applicable. | Assessment Methods  What specific artifacts of student learning will be analyzed? How, and by whom, will they be analyzed?  Note: the majority should provide direct, rather than indirect, evidence of achievement.  Please note if a rubric is used and, if so, include it as an appendix to this plan. | Use of Assessment Data  How and when will analyzed data be used by faculty to make changes in pedagogy, curriculum design, and/or assessment work?  How and when will the program evaluate the impact of assessment-informed changes made in previous years?  |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | Students will assess relevant criminology and criminal justice (CCJ) literature/scholarly contributions.  | Learning outcome will be assessed for students in required <i>CCJ 5000:</i> Criminological Theory.   | Written materials/oral presentations/ exams* using MACCJ rubrics 2, 3, and 5 (direct measures). Graduate exit survey (indirect measure).  | Assessment artifacts, rubrics, and examined data will be shared with all CCJ faculty and discussed each fall (early in the semester). Decisions, if appropriate, may be made then to improve/revise program learning outcomes (those assessed in a given year), the CCJ program, and/or our assessment plan. Data will also be shared with the School/College and will be used to acknowledge successes of our program. |
| 2 | Students will apply CCJ theories, practices, policies, or research methodologies.   | Learning outcome will be assessed for students in required CCJ 5000: Criminological Theory and CCJ 5200: Applied Research Methods.   | Written materials/oral presentations/ exams* using MACCJ rubrics 2, 3, and 5 (direct measures). Graduate exit survey (indirect measure).  | Assessment artifacts, rubrics, and examined data will be shared with all CCJ faculty and discussed each fall (early in the semester). Decisions, if appropriate, may be made then to improve/revise program learning outcomes (those assessed in a given year), the CCJ   |

|   |   |   |   | program, and/or our assessment plan. Data will also be shared with the School/College and will be used to acknowledge successes of our program.   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | Students will apply knowledge from CCJ to address problems in broader contexts.   | Learning outcome will be assessed for students in required <i>CCJ 5000:</i> Criminological Theory.  | Written materials/oral presentations/ exams* using MACCJ rubrics 1, 3, and 5 (direct measures).  Graduate exit survey (indirect measure).         | Assessment artifacts, rubrics, and examined data will be shared with all CCJ faculty and discussed each fall (early in the semester). Decisions, if appropriate, may be made then to improve/revise program learning outcomes (those assessed in a given year), the CCJ program, and/or our assessment plan. Data will also be shared with the School/College and will be used to acknowledge successes of our program. |
| 4 | Students will articulate CCJ explanations/arguments to a disciplinary/professional audience in both written and oral formats. | Learning outcome will be assessed for students in required CCJ 5000: Criminological Theory and CCJ 6400: Issues in Jurisprudence.               | Written materials/oral presentations/ exams* using MACCJ rubrics 1 and 3 (direct measures). Graduate exit survey (indirect measure).              | Assessment artifacts, rubrics, and examined data will be shared with all CCJ faculty and discussed each fall (early in the semester). Decisions, if appropriate, may be made then to improve/revise program learning outcomes (those assessed in a given year), the CCJ program, and/or our assessment plan. Data will also be shared with the School/College and will be used to acknowledge successes of our program. |
| 5 | Students will evidence scholarly/professional integrity (ethics) in CCJ.  | Learning outcome will be assessed for students in required CCJ 5100: Ethics in Administration of Justice and CCJ 6400: Issues in Jurisprudence. | Written materials/oral presentations/ exams* using MACCJ rubrics 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 (direct measures). Graduate exit survey (indirect measure). | Assessment artifacts, rubrics, and examined data will be shared with all CCJ faculty and discussed each fall (early in the semester). Decisions, if appropriate, may be made then to improve/revise program learning outcomes (those assessed in a given year), the CCJ program, and/or our assessment plan. Data will also be shared with the School/College and will be used to acknowledge successes of our program. |

<sup>\*</sup>Appropriate rubric will be utilized that corresponds to whichever artifact is selected/gathered from the course.

#### **Additional Questions**

1. On what schedule/cycle will faculty assess each of the above-noted program learning outcomes? (It is <u>not recommended</u> to try to assess every outcome every year.)

CCJ learning outcomes will be discussed and reviewed each year by all CCJ faculty (and others) to identify necessary updates or revisions. We will use data from our assessment rubrics to thoroughly review 1-2 learning outcomes each academic year (beginning with learning outcomes 1 and 4 this 2017/2018 academic year. We will likely conduct a more detailed review of all of our program learning outcomes during our university-required program review cycle (approximately every 5-7 years).

2. Describe how, and the extent to which, program faculty contributed to the development of this plan.

All CCJ faculty participated in development of our CCJ program's learning outcomes and were invited to participate in the development of our assessment plan. Mostly, the CCJ Program Director found and shared research on assessment, best practices, and content/minutes of meetings with our university assessment person. All CCJ faculty received, reviewed, and discussed initial feedback from university assessment person and agreed the program director would revise/respond to comments/concerns. All CCJ faculty will review, comment, and provide feedback on drafted rubrics to assess our learning outcomes.

3. On what schedule/cycle will faculty review and, if needed, modify this assessment plan?

Each year CCJ faculty will discuss and review the prior year's data/results and use that to inform the assessment process and plan for the next year. It's anticipated that data will be collected in the spring semester and then be presented/discussed at the beginning of the next fall semester – giving us time to revise, if necessary, our data collection plan for the next spring.

IMPORTANT: Please remember to submit any assessment rubrics (as noted above) along with this report.

### **MACCJ Program Learning Outcomes Assessment Rubrics**

### **MACCJ Rubric 1 (Effective Messaging)**

| Graduate                                 | Milestones                             |                                       | Benchmark                              |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| (4)                                      | (3)                                    | (2)                                   | (1)                                    |
| Demonstrates a masterful                 | Demonstrates a highly competent        | Demonstrates a thorough               | Demonstrates consideration of          |
| understanding of context, audience       | understanding of context, audience     | understanding of context, audience    | context, audience and purpose. Uses    |
| and purpose. Uses quality, relevant      | and purpose. Uses appropriate,         | and purpose. Uses appropriate and     | appropriate, relevant and compelling   |
| and compelling content, including        | relevant and compelling content,       | relevant content and credible sources | content to explore ideas. Consistently |
| rigorous, credible sources to illustrate | including the use of quality, credible | to illustrate a proficient            | uses relevant sources to support       |
| mastery of the subject. Uses graceful    | sources to illustrate in-depth         | understanding of the subject.         | ideas and uses clear and concise       |
| and concise language that conveys        | understanding of the subject. Uses     | Demonstrates the use of fluent and    | language that conveys meaning to       |
| meaning to the                           | graceful and concise language that     | concise language that conveys         | the reader/viewer/listener.            |
| reader/viewer/listener.                  | conveys meaning to the                 | meaning to the                        |  |
|  | reader/viewer/listener.                | reader/viewer/listener.               |  |

## MACCJ Rubric 2 (Conducting/Evaluating CCJ Research)

| Graduate                              | Milestones                            |  | Benchmark                              |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| (4)                                   | (3)                                   | (2)                                    | (1)                                    |
| Demonstrates a sophisticated          | Demonstrates a skillful               | Demonstrates a more than basic         | Demonstrates a basic understanding     |
| understanding of the relationship     | understanding of the relationship     | understanding of the relationship      | of the relationship between research   |
| between research paradigm and         | between research paradigm and         | between research paradigm and          | paradigm and methodological            |
| methodological choices. Makes         | methodological choices. Makes         | methodological choices. Makes          | choices. Makes decisions about         |
| sophisticated decisions about         | knowledgeable decisions about         | decisions about methods of inquiry     | methods of inquiry that address a      |
| methods of inquiry that expertly      | methods of inquiry that skillfully    | that address a particular research     | particular research                    |
| address a particular research         | address a particular research         | purpose/question/hypothesis, with      | purpose/question/hypothesis.           |
| purpose/question/hypothesis.          | purpose/question/hypothesis.          | some skill. Demonstrates a more        | Demonstrates a basic understanding     |
| Demonstrates an expert                | Demonstrates a knowledgeable          | than basic understanding of the        | of the appropriate criteria for        |
| understanding of the appropriate      | understanding of the appropriate      | appropriate criteria for evaluating    | evaluating CCJ research. Provides a    |
| criteria for evaluating CCJ research. | criteria for evaluating CCJ research. | CCJ research. Provides a more than     | basic explanation of ethics associated |
| Provides a sophisticated explanation  | Provides a knowledgeable              | basic explanation of ethics associated | with research practice.                |
| of ethics associated with research    | explanation of ethics associated with | with research practice.                |  |
| practice.                             | research practice.                    |  |  |
|                                       |                                       |  |  |

#### **MACCJ Rubric 3 (Applying CCJ Theories to Address Problems in Broader Context)**

| Graduate  | Milestones  |  | Benchmark  |
|---|---|--|--|
| (4)   | (3)   | (2)  | (1)  |
| Gives a sophisticated summarization of a theory that displays a nuanced understanding of the concepts and assumptions of the theory and its connection to research in the field. Applies a theory to broader contexts in unique ways that yield new knowledge and contributions. Shows expert understanding of a theory's implications and limitations and possibilities for expanding or | Gives a thoughtful summarization of a theory that displays an understanding of the concepts and assumptions of the theory and its connection to research in the field. Recognizes implications of theory in a way that articulates possibilities for differing contexts and applications of the theory. | Gives an adequate summarization of a theory that displays a basic understanding of the concepts and assumptions of the theory and its connection to research in the field. Chooses appropriate, relevant examples to demonstrate a theory's applicability and explains the relationship between theory and examples, with more analysis. | Gives a summarization of a theory with some understanding of how it relates to research in the field. Locates and explains relationships between theory and relevant examples. |
| enriching the field.  |   |  |  |

## MACCJ Rubric 4 (Demonstrating Multicultural CCJ Competence)

| Graduate                                 | Milestones                             |                                       | Benchmark                             |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| (4)                                      | (3)                                    | (2)                                   | (1)                                   |
| Demonstrates a masterful                 | Demonstrates a highly competent        | Demonstrates a thorough               | Demonstrates a substantial            |
| understanding of multiple                | and critically focused understanding   | understanding of multiple             | understanding of multiple             |
| worldviews, power structures and         | of multiple worldviews, power          | worldviews, power structures and      | worldviews, power structures and      |
| experiences of multiple cultures         | structures and experiences of          | experiences of multiple cultures      | experiences of multiple cultures      |
| historically or in contemporary          | multiple cultures historically or in   | historically or in contemporary       | historically or in contemporary       |
| contexts. Engages in critical reflection | contemporary contexts. Engages in      | contexts. Engages in reflection about | contexts. Engages in reflection about |
| about one's own culture, interacts in    | reflection about one's own culture,    | one's own culture, interacts in       | one's own culture, interacts in       |
| respectful ways with other cultures,     | interacts in respectful ways with      | respectful ways with other cultures,  | respectful ways with other cultures,  |
| and asks sophisticated questions         | other cultures, and asks sophisticated | and asks deep and insightful          | and asks deep questions about other   |
| about other cultures. Attempts to        | questions about other cultures.        | questions about other cultures and    | cultures and attempts to seek         |
| seek multiple answers to complex         | Attempts to seek multiple answers to   | attempts to seek multiple answers to  | answers to complex social, cultural,  |
| social, cultural, political questions,   | complex social, cultural, political    | complex social, cultural, political   | political questions.                  |
| and uses mastery in disciplinary         | questions, and uses proficiencies in   | questions.                            |                                       |
| specific theory and practice, to be at   | disciplinary specific theory and       |                                       |                                       |
| the forefront of efforts to solve        | practice, to be part of the effort to  |                                       |                                       |
| relevant contemporary problems.          | solve relevant contemporary            |                                       |                                       |
|  | problems.                              |                                       |                                       |

### MACCJ Rubric 5 (Applying Theories/Practices of Social Justice/Civic Engagement)

| Graduate                               | Milestones                             |  | Benchmark                          |
|--|--|--|------------------------------------|
| (4)                                    | (3)                                    | (2)                                    | (1)                                |
| Gives a sophisticated summarization    | Gives a thoughtful summarization of    | Gives an adequate summarization of     | Gives a summarization of social    |
| of social justice and civic engagement | social justice and civic engagement    | social justice and civic engagement    | justice and civic engagement, with |
| that displays a nuanced                | that displays an understanding of      | that displays a basic understanding of | some understanding of how they     |
| understanding of how they relate to    | how they relate to CCJ scholarship     | how they relate to CCJ scholarship     | relate to CCJ scholarship and      |
| CCJ scholarship and practice.          | and practice. Recognizes the various   | and practice. Chooses appropriate,     | practice.                          |
| Analyzes both broad and specific CCJ   | ways CCJ practices contribute to and   | relevant examples to explain social    |                                    |
| practices in unique ways that yield    | detract from justice in society, in a  | justice and injustice and explains the |                                    |
| new ways of thinking about just        | way that articulates possibilities for | relationship between CCJ and civic     |                                    |
| societies. Shows expert                | strategic civic engagement.            | engagement.                            |                                    |
| understanding of the principles of     |  |  |                                    |
| social justice and civic engagement    |  |  |                                    |
| and can imagine novel possibilities    |  |  |                                    |
| for expanding or enriching the world.  |  |  |                                    |

# MACCJ Rubric 6 (Analyzing Ethical Implications of CCJ/Applying Ethical Principles)

| Graduate                              | Milestones                              |                                       | Benchmark                           |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| (4)                                   | (3)                                     | (2)                                   | (1)                                 |
| Gives a sophisticated summarization   | Gives a thoughtful summarization of     | Gives an adequate summarization of    | Gives a summarization of CCJ ethics |
| of CCJ ethics that displays a nuanced | CCJ ethics that displays an             | CCJ ethics that displays a basic      | with some understanding of ethical  |
| understanding of ethical principles   | understanding of ethical principles     | understanding of the ethical          | principles and their application.   |
| and their application. Applies (and   | and their application. Articulates (and | principles and their application.     |                                     |
| critiques) ethical principles to      | critiques) ethical principles and their | Chooses appropriate, relevant         |                                     |
| broader contexts in unique ways that  | applications across differing contexts. | examples to demonstrate ethical       |                                     |
| yield novel opportunities for ethical |   | principles and explains how they play |                                     |
| action. Shows an expert               |   | out, in context.                      |                                     |
| understanding of ethics, action, and  |   |                                       |                                     |
| possibilities for expanding or        |   |                                       |                                     |
| enriching human experiences in CCJ.   |   |                                       |                                     |