

# Department of Sociology

Assessment Plan – Fall 2007 (draft)

Programs: B.A. and B.S. in Sociology, B.S. in Social Services

## I. Program Goals

1. Offer a superior sociology program that emphasizes critical thinking and problem solving skills.
2. Develop students' interest and involvement in social policies and community service organizations that elicit social justice and social change.
3. Support faculty scholarship and professional development activities and student research.
4. Participate in the life of the university, local community, and professional organizations through service.
5. Offer a variety of sociology courses to General Education curriculum, interdisciplinary programs, and selected University Centers.

CWU Department/Program Assessment Plan Preparation Form

Department:   Sociology  

Program:   Sociology  

<b>Department/Program Goals</b>	<b>Related College Goals</b>	<b>Related University Goals</b>	<b>Method(s) of Assessment</b>	<b>Who/What Assessed</b>	<b>When Assessed (term, dates)</b>	<b>Criterion of Achievement</b>
1. Offer a superior sociology program that emphasizes critical thinking and problem solving skills.	Goals 1 & 2: Provide for an outstanding academic and student experience	Goals 1 & 2: Maintain and strengthen an outstanding academic and student life  Goal 5: Achieve regional and national prominence for the university	Required completion of ETS Major Field Test by graduating seniors  Successful performance in capstone class	Seniors enrolled in capstone course (required of all graduating seniors)	fall, winter, and spring quarters	Department mean scores of MFAT are consistent with national averages  90% of students enrolled in capstone course obtain a passing grade
2. Develop students' interest and involvement in social policies and community service organizations that elicit social justice and social change.	Goal 5: Build partnerships that support academic program quality and student experiences, including those with private, professional, academic, government, and community-based organizations	Goal 4: Build mutually beneficial partnerships with the public sector, industry, professional groups, institutions, and the communities surrounding our campuses.	Civic engagement and service learning assignments  Student internships  Participation in student clubs and organizations  Volunteer service	Reports and/or presentations from students who participated in these assignments or functions  Students enrolled in cooperative education courses	fall, winter, and spring quarters	30% of majors participate in service learning or community service  90% of students have satisfactory performance evaluations from worksite supervisors and staff
3. Support faculty scholarship and professional development activities and student research	Goal 4: Develop a diversified funding base to support curriculum and academic facilities, student and faculty research and scholarship	Goal 3: Strengthen and further diversify our funding base and strengthen infrastructure to support academic and student programs.	Conferences and workshops  presentations  Publications, awards, and grants  Students research proposals and papers	Faculty and student participation in local, regional, national, and international conferences, workshops, and other venues	Ongoing/all year round	90% of faculty participate in development activities each year (conferences, workshops, trainings, forums, etc.)  50% of upper division classes require term papers or research

						<p>assignments</p> <p>30% of students participate in research activities (conferences, posters, class presentations, etc.)</p>
<p>4. Participate in the life of the university, local community, and professional organizations through service</p>	<p>Goal 7: Create and sustain productive, civil, and pleasant learning environments</p>	<p>Goal 6: build inclusive and diverse campus communities that promote intellectual inquiry and encourage civility, mutual respect, and cooperation</p>	<p>University, college, community, and professional organizations committee service</p> <p>Sponsorship of campus and/or community events</p>	<p>Department faculty</p> <p>Sociology majors</p>	<p>Fall, winter, and spring quarters</p>	<p>90% of faculty perform committee service</p> <p>Department participates in campus and/or community programs/events each year</p>
<p>5. Offer a variety of sociology courses to General Education curriculum, interdisciplinary programs, and selected University Centers</p>	<p>Goals 1 &amp; 2: Provide for an outstanding academic and student experience</p>	<p>Goals 1, &amp; 2: Maintain an outstanding academic and student life</p>	<p>Number of courses contributing to general education and other disciplines</p>	<p>Students enrolled in these courses</p>	<p>Fall, winter, and spring quarters</p>	<p>Number of general education courses, service courses, and student FTE comparable to the number of faculty in the department</p>

## II. Student Learning Outcomes

Students are expected to:

1. **demonstrate critical thinking skills**
  - a. identify underlying assumptions in theoretical models and arguments
  - b. distinguish between arguments based on empirical evidence and those based on opinion
  - c. recognize alternative viewpoints on social issues
  
2. **communicate effectively**
  - a. express sociological ideas in a clear and coherent manner
  - b. make oral presentations focused on course content in group settings
  - c. read professional-level sociological reports with understanding
  
3. **apply sociological perspective**
  - a. describe similarities and differences between sociology and the other social sciences
  - b. explain the contributes of sociology to understanding social reality
  - c. define and apply key concepts such as: culture, status, roles, norms, socialization, deviance, conformity, self, social structure, social institution, social inequality, stratification, race, gender, social change, and cultural diversity
  
4. **demonstrate competence in sociological theory**
  - a. describe the role of theory in building sociological knowledge
  - b. compare and contrast major theoretical orientations
  - c. explain how theories reflect the historical and cultural context of the times and cultures in which they were developed
  
5. **Recognize and use different methods of sociological inquiry and data analysis**
  - a. identify, compare, and contrast the major methodological approaches and techniques for analyzing data
  - b. design and carry out a social research project
  - c. be aware of ethical issues in research
  - d. demonstrate basic computer skills necessary to find, create, apply, and communicate sociological information
  
6. **Show knowledge in substantive areas within sociology**
  - a. summarize existing knowledge, current questions, and important issues in one substantive area within sociology
  - b. suggest specific policy implications of research and theories in one area

7. **Integrate the knowledge and skills learned in the sociology program with life goals and career interests**
  - a. Participate in extra curriculum and service activities that elicit positive social change
  - b. Apply sociological perspective in real world, professional experience

CWU Student Learning Outcome Assessment Plan -- Department of Sociology

Programs: BA in Sociology, BS in Sociology, BS in Social Services

<b>Student Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Related Program/ Departmental Goals</b>	<b>Related College Goals</b>	<b>Related University Goals</b>	<b>Method(s) of Assessment</b>	<b>Who Assessed</b> (only major core and selected courses are shown here)	<b>When Assessed</b>	<b>Standard of Mastery/ Criterion of Achievement</b>
<p>1. Demonstrate critical thinking skills:</p> <p>identify underlying assumptions in theoretical models and arguments</p> <p>distinguish between arguments based on empirical evidence and those based on opinion</p> <p>recognize alternative viewpoints on social issues</p>	<p>1. Offer a superior sociology program that emphasizes critical thinking and problem solving skills</p> <p>5. Offer a variety of sociology courses to General Education curriculum, interdisciplinary programs, and selected University Centers</p>	<p>Goals 1 &amp; 2: Provide for an outstanding academic and student experience</p>	<p>Goals 1 &amp; 2: Maintain and strengthen an outstanding academic and student life</p>	<p>Course grades of sociology majors</p> <p>Exams</p> <p>End-of-course papers</p> <p>Reading journals</p> <p>Short written assignments</p> <p>Class presentations</p> <p>Group discussion</p> <p>Blackboard discussion</p>	<p>Students enrolled in sociology courses that identify critical thinking as a learning outcome</p> <p>Especially students enrolled in Soc 101, Soc 107, Soc 350, Soc 363, Soc 364, Soc 365, Soc 445</p>	<p>Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters</p>	<p>90% of students meet standards established in critical thinking rubric</p> <p>90% of students obtain passing grades in courses they enrolled</p> <p>All department majors graduate with GPA at or above 2.3</p>
<p>2. Communicate effectively:</p> <p>Express sociological ideas in a clear and coherent manner</p> <p>Make oral presentations focused on course</p>	<p>1. Offer a superior sociology program that emphasizes critical thinking and problem solving skills</p> <p>5. Offer a variety of sociology courses to General</p>	<p>Goals 1 &amp; 2: Provide for an outstanding academic and student experience</p>	<p>Goals 1 &amp; 2: Maintain and strengthen an outstanding academic and student life</p>	<p>Course grades of sociology majors</p> <p>Exams</p> <p>Research papers</p> <p>Reading journals</p> <p>Class written</p>	<p>Students enrolled in sociology courses that identify effective communication as a learning outcome</p> <p>Especially students enrolled in Soc 101, Soc 107, Soc</p> <p>Seniors enrolled in the</p>	<p>Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters</p>	<p>90% of students meet standards established in effective communication rubric</p> <p>90% of students obtain passing grades in courses they enrolled</p>

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<p>content in group settings</p> <p>Read professional-level sociological reports with understanding</p>	<p>Education curriculum, interdisciplinary programs, and selected University Centers</p>			<p>assignments</p> <p>Class presentations</p> <p>Group discussion</p> <p>Blackboard discussion</p>	<p>Capstone Seminar</p>		<p>All department majors graduate with GPA at or above 2.3</p>
<p>3. Apply sociological perspective:</p> <p>Describe similarities and differences between sociology and other social sciences</p> <p>Explain contributions of sociology to understanding social reality</p> <p>Define and apply key concepts such as culture, status, roles, norms, socialization, deviance, conformity, self,</p>	<p>2. Develop students' interest and involvement in social policies and community service organizations that elicit social justice and social change</p>	<p>Goal 5: Build partnerships that support academic program quality and student experiences, including those with private, professional, academic, government, and community-based organizations</p>	<p>Goal 4: Build mutually beneficial partnerships with the public sector, industry, professional groups, institutions, and the communities surrounding our campuses.</p>	<p>Course grades of sociology majors</p> <p>Exams</p> <p>Research papers</p> <p>Reading journals</p> <p>Class written assignments</p> <p>Class presentations</p> <p>Group discussion</p> <p>Case studies</p> <p>MFAT</p>	<p>Students enrolled in Soc 107,</p> <p>Seniors enrolled in the Capstone Seminar</p>	<p>Fall, Winter, Spring quarters</p>	<p>90% of students meet the course rubrics</p> <p>95% of students obtain passing grades in the courses they enrolled</p> <p>All department majors graduate with GPA at or above 2.3</p>

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social structure, social institution, social inequality, stratification, race, gender, social change, cultural diversity, etc.							
4. Demonstrate competence in sociological theory:  Describe the role of theory in building sociological knowledge  Compare and contrast major theoretical orientations  Explain how theories reflect historical and cultural context of the times and cultures in which they were developed	1. Offer a superior sociology program that emphasizes critical thinking and problem solving skills	Goals 1 & 2: Provide for an outstanding academic and student experience	Goals 1 & 2: Maintain and strengthen an outstanding academic and student life	Course grades of sociology majors  Course exams  papers  Written assignments  Completion of MFAT	Students enrolled in sociology courses that identify competence in theory as a learning outcome  Especially students enrolled in:  Soc 107, Soc 350, Soc 362, Soc 365, Soc 386, Soc 425, Soc 450	Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters	90% of students meet the student learning outcomes established in individual courses  95% of students obtain passing grades in the courses they enrolled  All department majors graduate with GPA at or above 2.3
5. Recognize and use different methods of	1. Offer a superior sociology program that emphasizes	Goals 1 & 2: Provide for an outstanding	Goals 1 & 2: Maintain and strengthen an	Course grades of sociology majors	Students enrolled in sociology courses that identify research	Fall, Winter, Spring and	90% of students meet the student learning outcomes established



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<p>sociological inquiry and data analysis:</p> <p>Identify, compare, and contrast major sociological research and techniques for analyzing data</p> <p>Design and carry out a social research project</p> <p>Be aware of ethical issues in research</p> <p>Demonstrate basic computer skills necessary to find, create, apply, and communicate sociological information</p>	critical thinking and problem solving skills	academic and student experience	outstanding academic and student life	<p>Exams</p> <p>Class projects</p> <p>Research papers</p> <p>Group discussion</p> <p>Presentations</p> <p>Individual study projects</p> <p>Completion of MFAT</p>	<p>methods and social analysis as a learning outcome</p> <p>Students enrolled in:</p> <p>Soc 107, Soc 363, Soc 364, Soc 464, Soc 494, Soc 495</p>	Summer quarters	<p>in individual courses</p> <p>95% of students obtain passing grades in the courses they enrolled</p> <p>All department majors graduate with GPA at or above 2.3</p>
<p>6. Show knowledge in substantive areas within sociology</p> <p>summarize existing knowledge, current questions, and important issues in</p>	1. Offer a superior sociology program that emphasizes critical thinking and problem solving skills	Goals 1 & 2: Provide for an outstanding academic and student experience	Goals 1 & 2: Maintain and strengthen an outstanding academic and student life	<p>Course grades of sociology majors</p> <p>Research papers</p> <p>Exams</p> <p>Oral presentations</p>	<p>Students who have taken two or more courses in one of the three categories of the sociology program</p> <p>Social Services majors</p>	Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters	<p>90% of students meet the student learning outcomes established in individual courses</p> <p>95% of students obtain passing grades in the courses they</p>

<b>Student Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Related Program/ Departmental Goals</b>	<b>Related College Goals</b>	<b>Related University Goals</b>	<b>Method(s) of Assessment</b>	<b>Who Assessed</b> (only major core and selected courses are shown here)	<b>When Assessed</b>	<b>Standard of Mastery/ Criterion of Achievement</b>
<p>one substantive area within sociology</p> <p>suggest specific policy implications of research and theories in one area</p>				<p>Case Studies</p> <p>Journals</p> <p>Class projects</p> <p>Senior portfolio</p> <p>Completion of MFAT</p>			<p>enrolled</p> <p>All department majors graduate with GPA at or above 2.3</p>
<p>7. Integrate the knowledge and skills learned in the sociology program with life goals and career interests:</p> <p>Participate in extra curriculum and service activities that elicit positive social change</p> <p>Apply sociological perspective in real world, professional experience</p>	<p>2. Develop students' interest and involvement in social policies and community service organizations that elicit social justice and social change</p> <p>4. Participate in the life of the university, local community, and professional organizations through service</p>	<p>Goal 5: Build partnerships that support academic program quality and student experiences, including those with private, professional, academic, government, and community-based organizations</p>	<p>Goal 4: Build mutually beneficial partnerships with the public sector, industry, professional groups, institutions, and the communities surrounding our campuses.</p>	<p>Course grades of sociology majors</p> <p>Service learning reports and journals</p> <p>Senior portfolio documents (resume, writing samples)</p> <p>Presentations</p>	<p>Students enrolled in Soc 301, Soc 327, Soc 446, Soc 386, Soc 442, Soc 446, Soc 490</p> <p>Students who participate in service learning projects</p> <p>Seniors enrolled in Capstone seminar</p>	<p>Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarters</p>	<p>90% of students meet the student learning outcomes established in individual courses</p> <p>All department majors graduate with GPA at or above 2.3</p>

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