Assessment Plan

B.A. in SOCIOLOGY and ANTHROPOLOGY
School of Social Science
College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Kean University

Mission:
The Sociology Program at Kean University has several related goals that are aligned with the University Mission. As a major program within a highly diverse university, the Sociology faculty is devoted to instilling in its students the sociological imagination as a way of understanding the relationship between their personal lives and the history of their world. As such, we are devoted to academic rigor, critical thought, teaching excellence and ethical scholarship.

As a department, we seek to inspire in our students a commitment to democracy and firm principles of egalitarianism that will prepare them for graduate work and positions in research, teaching, public service, business, and anywhere else where they may serve as agents of social change. We aim to develop in our students an awareness of the effects of social structures and social forces on human lives, organizations and groups. We further emphasize the importance of respecting diversity and promoting social justice in a pluralistic society. In summary, we are committed to helping our students become critically active and informed members of their communities, their societies and their world.

Assessment Process::
Sociology students have 6 core courses to take as part of the requirements for the major. These five core courses provide a sound backbone of the discipline with regard to the research and theoretical aspects of Sociology and Anthropology as well as the various areas of study within these fields. As such, these 5 core courses are the primary vehicle for assessing the knowledge of our students. Beyond the 5 core courses, students take 5 other Sociology courses selected from a list of electives, and it is likely that no two (or very few) majors take the exact same grouping of courses. Therefore, the faculty have agreed to center our assessment on the core knowledge of Sociology. Each core course has assessment tools as part of the evaluation process; however, culminating assessment is done in SOC 4600. In this course, assessment data is collected from an assignment that requires students to provide the evidence of meeting program goals. Each semester, composite data from scored student assignments will be collected and analyzed to address areas of program strengths and weaknesses and to inform our decisions ultimately resulting in program improvements.
Program Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) – as aligned with KU SLOs derived from the Institutional Mission* and GE SLOs.** (Data from Direct and Indirect Measures collected each semester in the Capstone Course or a designated, end-of-program course.)

Students who graduate with a BA in Sociology and Anthropology should be able to:

SLO1: Demonstrate a commitment to democracy and firm principles of egalitarianism and a willingness to serve as agents of social change. (KU 2, 3) (GE K2, S1, S3, S4, S5)

Direct Measure: SOC 4600: Research paper scored with rubric to demonstrate achievement of program goals. Indirect Measure: Graduating Student Survey

SLO2: Analyze the effects of social structures and social forces on human lives, organizations and groups. (KU 1, 4) (GE K2, S1, S3, S4)

Direct Measure: SOC 4600: Research paper scored with rubric to demonstrate achievement of program goals. Indirect Measure: Graduating Student Survey

SLO3: Articulate the importance of respecting diversity and demonstrate skill in promoting social justice in a pluralistic society. (KU 1, 3) (GE K2, S2, S1, S3, S4, S5)

Direct Measure: SOC 4600: Research paper scored with rubric to demonstrate achievement of program goals. Indirect Measure: Graduating Student Survey

SLO4: Articulate and understanding the relationship between their personal lives and the history of their world. (KU 1, 4) (GE K3, S1, S2, S5)

Direct Measure: SOC 4600: Research paper scored with rubric to demonstrate achievement of program goals. Indirect Measure: Graduating Student Survey

* KU Student Outcomes: Kean University graduates should be able to:
1. Think critically, creatively and globally;
2. Adapt to changing social, economic, and technological environments;
3. Serve as active and contributing members of their communities; and
4. Advance their knowledge in the traditional disciplines (GE) and enhance their skills in professional areas (Prof. pgms)

**General Education Student Learning Outcomes

Student Learning Outcomes – Knowledge: Students will demonstrate proficiency in knowledge and content by:

(K1) applying the scientific method to understand natural concepts and processes;
(K2) evaluating major theories and concepts in social sciences;
(K3) relating historical references to literature; and
(K4) evaluating major theories and concepts in the fine arts.

Student Learning Outcomes – Skills: Students will demonstrate the skills necessary to:

(S1) write to communicate and clarify learning ;
(S2) communicate effectively through speech;
(S3) solve problems using quantitative reasoning;
(S4) think critically about concepts in multiple disciplines; and
(S5) show information literacy.