

**Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice**  
**Course Assessment Objectives and Measures**  
**Spring 2017**

CRM 250 Assessment Requirement: *Demonstrating the Use of Scholarly Resources and Citing and Referencing in APA Format*

Student Assessment Criteria

- a. Identifies scholarly sources appropriate for an academic paper
- b. Integrates resource material into the flow of the paper
- c. Utilizes APA format effectively for in-text citations
- d. References are complete and in accordance with APA guidelines
- e. Demonstrates appropriate grammar, spelling, and writing skills for a 200-level student

CRM 260 Assessment Requirement: *Briefing a Legal Case*

Student Assessment Criteria

- a. Demonstrates the case's procedural history
- b. Presents the facts of the case
- c. Identifies the legal issue being decided by the court
- d. Identifies the court's holding in the case
- e. Explains the court's reasoning for its decision
- f. Demonstrates appropriate grammar, spelling, and writing skills for a 200-level student

CRM 270 Assessment Requirement: *Breaking Down Scholarly Research Material*

Student Assessment Criteria

- a. Provides an adequate summary of the reading material
- b. Identifies the theoretical basis or logical rationale for the research
- c. Identifies strengths and weaknesses in how the research was conducted
- d. Critically analyzes whether conclusions are justified by the research
- e. States the relevance of the research to the broader criminal justice field
- f. Demonstrates appropriate grammar, spelling, and writing skills for a 200-level student

CRM 320 Assessment Requirement: *Demonstrating the Ability to Connect Theory, Research, and Practice*

Student Assessment Criteria

- a. Applies theoretical principles from criminology to explain crime causation
- b. Utilizes theoretical principles from criminology to identify solutions to crime
- c. Recognizes the role of research in the development of a criminal justice program or practice
- d. Demonstrates an understanding of how research is used to test criminological theories
- e. Demonstrates appropriate grammar, spelling, and writing skills for an upper-level student

CRM 340 Assessment Requirement: *Demonstrating the Ability to Conduct a Literature Review of Academic Research*

Student Assessment Criteria

- a. Produces an organized and readable paper
- b. Maintains a scholarly and objective writing tone throughout the paper

- c. Shows the ability to synthesize multiple readings into a coherent flow
- d. Identifies the core methodological strategies and findings from scholarly sources.
- e. Demonstrates appropriate grammar, spelling, and writing skills for an upper-level student

CRM 355/375 Assessment Requirement: *Completing a Policy-Related Position Assignment Integrating Ethical Issues*

Student Assessment Criteria

- a. Explains the current status, relevance, and implications of a criminal justice policy
- b. Articulates the arguments and evidence which supports the policy
- c. Articulates the arguments and evidence in opposition to the policy
- d. Identifies and critically examines ethical issues which may affect an assessment of the policy's merits
- e. Critically discusses with sound reasoning one's personal position on the policy's value
- f. Demonstrates appropriate grammar, spelling, and writing skills for an upper-level student

CRM 380 Assessment Requirement: *Giving an Oral Presentation*

Student Assessment Criteria

- a. Conducts the presentation in a professional manner
- b. Meets presentation assignment guidelines, including time limits
- c. Incorporates high quality sources to support points and arguments
- d. Demonstrates organization in the layout of the presentation
- e. Delivers the material in an effective manner

CRM 380 Assessment Requirement: *Demonstrating Problem Definition and Solution Development as Part of Critical Thinking*

Student Assessment Criteria

- a. Identifies and defines clearly a problem facing criminal justice
- b. Analyzes potential causes fueling the problem
- c. Develops potential solutions to address the problem
- d. Provides an assessment/justification of the value of the proposed solutions
- e. Demonstrates appropriate grammar, spelling, and writing skills for an upper-level student

CRM 415 Assessment Requirement: *Examining Diversity in Criminal Justice Contexts*

Student Assessment Criteria

- a. Selects a research topic that is relevant to addressing a current issue in the criminal justice system in which race, class, and/or gender impacts the administration of justice.
- b. Utilizes academic literature that reflects current research on race, class, and/or gender
- c. Creates a cohesive research paper that synthesizes multiple sources.
- d. Develops an understanding of the social and criminal justice related factors that create challenges to achieving cultural diversity and ethical treatment of diverse groups.
- e. Examines the impact of injustice on an identity group (race, class, and/or gender).

Each assessment criterion is measured on a 3-point scale by the instructor/professor as 3=*exceeding expectations*, 2=*meeting expectations*, or 1=*failing to meet expectations*.

In addition, core knowledge proficiency assessments occur in CRM 250, 260, 270, and 320. Professors and instructors use overall or final exam scores for each student as measures of core knowledge proficiency. Knowledge proficiency scoring is determined as 3=*exceeding expectations* (80-100%), 2=*meeting expectations* (70-79%), or 1=*failing to meet expectations* (69% or below).

#### CRM 598 Capstone Assessment

- A. Senior exit survey - asks about demographic information, one's overall experience and level of satisfaction with the criminology program, feedback related to program strengths and weaknesses, satisfaction with course delivery methods, adequacy of preparation for upper-level courses, future plans, and contact information.
- B. Senior exit exam – multiple choice examination focusing on critical concepts which students should know by the end of the program.
- C. Senior seminar paper – requires students to address an ethical problem in criminal justice and provide a thorough literature review.