

**Department Assessment Plan**

**DEPARTMENT:**           **Sociology and Social Work**  
**Department Assessment Coordinators:** Fred J. De Jong, Kevin D. Dougherty

**ASSESSMENT PLAN:**

**Knowledge Objectives**

<b>Objectives</b> (identify type) Each sociology graduate who completes the program will acquire the following knowledge and skills.	<b>Method of Assessment</b>	<b>Results</b>
1. Understand the perspectives, theories and concepts of sociology. (Knowledge)	a. An assignment in Soc 318 tests basic sociological knowledge.	Soc 318 assignment tests for this knowledge, and reports annually to the assessment coordinator (see report form)
2. Understand the general contours of the history of social thought and the history of sociology. (Knowledge)	a. Course work in Soc 318 (required of all majors) will measure this objective (see attached.) b. Self-report item in Sociology Major Graduate Survey, Question # (tba).	Soc 318 assignment tests in this area, and professor reports to assessment coordinator.
3. Evaluate and critique the major perspectives, theories and concepts of sociology within the context of a Christian perspective. (Knowledge)	a Course work in Soc 318 (required of all majors) will be evaluated using a rubric related to these objectives (see attached.) b. Self-report item in Sociology Major Graduate Survey, Question # (tba).	Student performance on measures in Soc 318 will indicate acceptable work in this area. Professor reports to assessment coordinator.
4. Demonstrate the integration of a Reformed perspective within one area of sociology.	a. Capstone writing assignment measures this area. b. Survey question	Assignment is rated according to departmental rubric, and results are reported to assessment coordinator.
5. Understand and value social justice and reconciliation as they relate to socio-cultural systems, local to global. (knowledge/value)	a. Self-report item in Sociology Major Graduate Survey, Question # (tba).  Targeted assignments in a selected number of course electives. <i>Soc. 314 Contemporary Social Problems should be a required course for all majors to ensure an adequate performance measure for this objective.***</i>	Targeted courses – professors report to assessment coordinator.
6. Understand and value human diversity. (Knowledge/Value)	a. Self-report item in Sociology Major Graduate Survey, Question # (tba). Students will meet this objective through a variety of experiences. <i>Soc.250 Diversity and Inequality in the United States should be a required course for all majors to ensure an adequate performance measure.***</i>	a. 80% Agree or Strongly Agree to a self-report, 7 point Likert Scale item. b. <i>Grades of "C" or better in this course.</i>
7. Use basic empirical sociological research skills, as	a. Course work in Soc 320 (required of all majors) will be	. 80% Agree or Strongly

well as evaluate research studies (Skill)**	evaluated using a rubric related to these objectives (see attached.)	
8. Use basic computing and statistical skills (Skill)	b. Course work in Soc 255 (required of all majors) will be evaluated using a rubric related to these objectives c. (see attached.) Self report:	
9. Students will develop good Communication Skills, especially  a. writing (Skills)  b. oral presentation skills (Skill)  c. cross cultural communication skills (Skill)	a. Students will produce a professional quality, analytic paper in Sociology 395 that will be scored according to a writing rubric. Self report: Survey Question b. Students will make an oral presentation of research findings., which will be evaluated with an oral communication rubric. Self report: Survey Question c. Students will complete the CCE portion of the core with acceptable performance Self Report: Survey Question	
10. Students will participate in	Students will report hours via....	All students will have completed some hours in service settings through Service Learning, Internship, or .....
11. Students will be well prepared for work or graduate school after completion of the program.	The department will collect available GRE and graduate school placement information, and will collect job placement data. b. Self-report item in Sociology Major Graduate Survey, Question # (tba).	.Placement rates and test scores will be above national averages.  80% Agree or Strongly Agree to a self-report, 7 point Likert Scale item.

Note: The Sociology Office will prepare and maintain a portfolio on each Sociology major. Students and faculty, especially those in the required Sociology courses, will submit items to this portfolio as they proceed through the major. A portfolio summary, noting strengths and weaknesses will be completed every year by the department assessment coordinator. Every three years a graduate survey will be completed and results will be incorporated into the yearly report for a larger departmental assessment. (Longitudinal)

OR: (Cross sectional) Every year, faculty will complete knowledge and skill assessments for the students in their courses, and this information will be collated into a report using the structure above.