



PROGRAM ASSESSMENT COLUMN REPORT

Program - Forensic Science (MS)

Program General Information

Mission Statement

The mission of the program is to provide a Master of Science level education in the field of forensic science. This mission is accomplished by providing students with a well-rounded, hands-on forensic science education in order to prepare for professional careers in public and private forensic laboratories, federal, state, or local government/law enforcement agencies, Department of Defense, The Department of Homeland Security and/or the Intelligence Agencies. The program promotes academic excellence through teaching, service, internships, and research and provides high quality education through practical and innovative teaching methods, critical thinking, and ethical professional development.

College/School

College of Science

Department/Division

Forensic Science Program

Students will demonstrate competency in the documentation of a mock crime scene through the use of notes, photographs, and a rough sketch

Student Learning Outcome Label: SLO 1

Outcome Status: Active

Students will demonstrate competency in the completion of written scientific forms/reports

Student Learning Outcome Label: SLO 2

Outcome Status: Active

Students will effectively communicate through writing the impact and significance of their research.

Student Learning Outcome Label: SLO 3

Outcome Status: Active

Students will exhibit effective public speaking qualities during presentation of their research, findings, and conclusions.

Student Learning Outcome Label: SLO 4

Outcome Status: Active

Assessment Period(s): 2022 - 2023

Is this Student Learning Outcome tied to an external accreditation standard?: No

Assessment Method	Findings and Improvements
<p>Assessment Measure: Direct Measure Description of Assessment Measure: The SLO was assessed using a rubric that evaluated six components of the outcome on a rating of poor, good, very good, or excellent. The assessment was completed on the students' FRSC 610 final paper. Assessment Status: Active Achievement Target: The Achievement Target is set at 80% of students or higher obtain a very good to excellent rating is considered successfully met. Supporting Documentation: SLO4 Graduate Rubric- Spring 2023.docx</p>	<p>Findings Date: 10/12/2023 Findings: 100% of the student population in this course (13 students) was assessed in spring 2023 and 54% (7 out of 13 students) of the students achieved very good or excellent scores which is below our 80% achievement target. An average of very good (17.5 /24 points) was achieved overall. Reporting Period: 2022 - 2023 Conclusion: Target Not Met Individual(s) Responsible for Assessment: Dr. Joe Dizinno Number of Students Assessed: 13 Analysis of Results: It can be concluded that improvements can be made to improve students' public speaking qualities of their research and conclusions. From analysis of the ratings, it can be seen that students that perform very well are typically highly rated in all or most components. Conversely, students that do not perform very well are typically rated low in all or most components. This insight may reflect an overall concept that students with strong research topics are more likely to be able to effectively orally communicate the information with logical progression and strong findings and conclusions. These students are also seen to be more likely to be able to effectively respond to audience questions. Supporting Documents:</p>

Assessment Method	Findings and Improvements
	<p data-bbox="772 232 1213 261">SLO 4 Grad Data- Spring 2023.docx</p> <p data-bbox="772 264 1222 293"><u>ACTIONS & IMPROVEMENT PLANS</u></p> <p data-bbox="772 297 2003 516">Past Improvements: Since the last assessment cycle, our Program has implemented a new course that is designed to teach students quantitative methods as it relates to the field of forensic science in order for them to properly conduct data analysis and interpretation in their research project. This course was devised due to students' lack of prerequisite knowledge of principles of statistics to apply to devising a proper research methodology and to properly analyze and interpret results . This course is currently being taught as a prerequisite for all students that will complete FRSC 610 Forensic Research Project.</p> <p data-bbox="772 519 2003 776">Future Improvements: As noted above, a new course FRSC 601 Quantitative Methods for Forensic Scientist has been designed, proposed, and implemented into the M.S. curriculum as a prerequisite course and in preparation to completing FRSC 610 Forensic Research Project. Since this is a new course and has newly been added as a requirement to the degree curriculum for student's completing graduate research projects, there are students from spring 2023 that began their research prior to having access to this course. Therefore, it is anticipated that with the continuing of this course that improvements will be seen in the students performance as related to this outcome and also as related to the overall course requirements and expectations.</p> <p data-bbox="772 779 1390 808">Future Improvements Completed By: 06/01/2024</p> <p data-bbox="772 812 1575 841">Individual(s) Responsible for Improvement Plan: Dr. Joe Dizinno</p> <p data-bbox="772 844 1092 873">Resources Needed: None</p>

Students will use analytical thinking in addressing a real world forensic science problem.

Student Learning Outcome Label: SLO 5

Outcome Status: Active