

**Cerritos College
Instructional Program Review**

Instructional Program Review Submittal Form (Appendix F)

This form is completed and submitted as a cover sheet for the self-study report

Name of the Program Sociology

Date Submitted 11/6/18

Scheduled Presentation Date 11/6/18

All courses in the program have been reviewed by the Curriculum Committee within the last six year cycle (circle one) Yes No

Explain any exceptions for non-compliance with curriculum requirements:

The self-study report adequately addresses the following components:

Description of the Program	Yes	No
Course and program content	X	
Student demographics	X	
Human resources	X	
Instructional Improvement	Yes	No
Teaching effectiveness	X	
Activities to improve student learning	X	
Course grading	X	
Course and program completion	X	
Program outcomes	X	
Core indicators (if vocational)	X	
Student feedback	X	
Institutional data	X	
Other	Yes	No
Strengths and weaknesses of the program	X	
Opportunities and threats of the program	X	
Goals of the program	X	

Self-Study prepared by: Amy Holzgang + Matthew Dunn

Reviewed by (Division Dean): R. Mason 12/4/18

1. Description of Program

a. Course and Program Content

- i. Course Outlines: The department has just recently updated our course outlines and we keep current with the updates and articulations agreements.
- ii. Course designs: Our program courses are aligned to meet the needs of GE students as well as for our majors who are seeking to transfer. In Spring 2011 our new AA-T degree/SB 1440 compliance was approved by the Chancellor's office Fall 2011 making the Sociology Department the first on the campus to do so. It went into effect as of Spring 2012. The program courses as well as the offerings from semester to semester are designed to meet these needs.
 1. Courses: Our courses are designed to fulfill a variety of needs as stated in the program outcomes. There are 3 100-level courses which comprise anywhere between 19-23 of our total sections (close to 90%; see Appendix). We usually offer 3-5 200-level courses each semester so that our majors can fulfill their requirements.

Our Sociology 101 course meets the needs of GE in the following ways:

Area B on plan A, Area D3 on plan B, Area 4 on plan C. It also is listed for Sociology majors under our area A as a requirement.

Sociology 110: Marriage and Family and Sociology 120: Human Sexuality meet the needs of GE Area E on plan B as well as for our majors as an elective under area C in our AA-T degree.

2. Interdepartmental course articulation: Our course offerings are designed so that students who are majors can finish their required classes and earn the AA-T degree in an appropriate time. The AA-T degree went in to effect Spring 2012.
3. Prerequisites: Most of the sociology classes do not have any pre-requisites. Sociology 205: Social Research Methods has a pre-requisite of Soc. 101 or Anth. 100.
4. Transfer/articulation agreements: We now have the degree of AA-T, which satisfies the CA legislation SB1440 and Chancellors effort to create an easier

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transfer pattern to the Cal State Universities. Students who complete the AA-T degree have the assurance that they have completed all the lower-division requirements for the major of sociology and are ready to start upper division work at the CSU when they get there.

5. Campus connections: The sociology department classes fulfill many requirements and needs on campus. Specifically, our Sociology 101 course is required for pre-nursing students. Along with the GE requirements that are needed, our courses serve the needs of students in many of the social sciences.

Sociology 202: Gender and Society is cross-listed with Women's and Gender Studies 202 and is part of the WGS AA degree as well as a newly approved Certificate and AA degree in Women in Management.

Sociology 220: Introduction to Human Services is a requirement for students in the Mental Health Worker Certificate program. It is also a requirement for students wishing to transfer as social work majors. We offer this class each spring semester in the evening to coincide with the Mental Health Worker program classes which are usually in the evenings as well.

A number of our classes are also designated as fulfilling class requirements for the AA in Women's Studies.

Sociology 205: Social Research Methods class is part of the AA degree in Anthropology.

Sociology 201, 210 and 215 are elective courses in the Mexican American/Chicano(a)/Latino(a) AA degree patterns.

Sociology 120: Human Sexuality will fulfill an elective option in the AA-T degree for Psychology.

We offer 3 classes as part of the Scholars Honors Program. Sociology 205: Research Methods is offered as Honors class every semester, Soc. 101 and Soc. 202 alternate SHP designations: Soc. 202 is SHP in fall, Soc. 101 is SHP in spring semester.

- b. Demographics: For these numbers, we will use the data from the office of Institutional Effectiveness, Research and Planning.

In the fall semester of 2017, the sociology department had 1,861 students. In terms of age: 39% were 19 years old or younger; 39% were 20 to 24 years old; 12% were 25 to 29 years old; 4% were 30 to 34 years old; 2% were 35 to 39 years old; 2% were 40 to 49 years old; 1% were 50 years old or older. In terms of gender: 68% identified as female; 34% identified as male; and 1% identified as "unknown". In terms of the racial and ethnic composition of these 1,861 students:

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8% identified as American Indian/Alaskan Native; 17% identified as Asian; 1.5% identified as Black; 0.7% identified as Filipino; 66% identified as Hispanic; 0.5% identified as Pacific Islander; 4% identified as “unknown”; and 0.7% identified as White. The demographic breakdown for the spring semester of 2018 is very similar. In the spring semester of 2018 the sociology department taught 1,959 students. In terms of age: 32% were 19 or under; 42% were 20 to 24; 14% were 25 to 29; 6% were 30 to 34; 3% were 35 to 39; 3% were 40 to 49; and 1% were 50 years of age or older. In terms of gender: 65% of students identified as female; 33% identified as male; and 1% of students selected “unknown”. In terms of race and ethnicity: 8% of students in the spring semester identified as American Indian/Alaskan Native; 17% identified as Asian; 2% identified as Black; 1% identified as Filipino; 65% identified as Hispanic; 0.5% identified as Pacific Islander; 4% identified as “unknown”; and 0.7% of students identified as White.

In a department survey conducted during the Spring 2018 semester of a representative sample of our classes (254 students), the majority of our students reported that this was their first sociology course at Cerritos College; 68% of respondents reported that this was their first sociology course at Cerritos; 12.6% of respondents reported that this was their second sociology course; and 19% of respondents reported that they had taken three or more sociology courses at Cerritos College. Of the students who responded to the survey, the majority of students have been students at Cerritos College for at least 3 or more semesters. Of our respondents, 54% have been at Cerritos for three or more semesters; 13% have been students at Cerritos for two semesters; and 33% of students have been at Cerritos for one semester. The students taking sociology courses at Cerritos reflect students with a diverse range of academic interests. Although nearly 1 in 5 respondents have taken three or more sociology courses, 75% of those who took the survey are not sociology majors; while 25% are. Regarding academic goals, the students taking sociology courses report an overwhelming desire to transfer to a 4-year school with an AA or AAT degree; 75% of students report such a goal. Furthermore, 14% of students report the desire to transfer to a 4-year school without an AA or AAT degree; 5% of students desire to earn an AA or AAT degree without transferring to a 4-year college or university; 1% want to obtain a vocational degree without transferring; 4% want to prepare for a new career; and 0.8% want to maintain a certificate or license.

When it comes down to the financial circumstances and labor force participation of the sociology students at Cerritos college, the majority of students are supported by family or a spouse. 54% of survey

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respondents reported such a financial circumstance; 27.5% percent of students are financially supporting themselves; 10% of students are supporting two individuals; 3.5% of sociology students are supporting three individuals; 3% of students are supporting four individuals financially; 2% of students are supporting five or more individuals. A plurality of students taking sociology courses at Cerritos are not currently working for pay. 45% of respondents report not currently working for pay; 4% of students report working between 1 to 9 hours per week; 13% of students report working between 10 to 19 hours per week; 22% of respondents report working between 20 to 29 hours per week; and 15% of students report working 30 or more hours per week. In terms of financial support, the majority of respondents are receiving some form of financial aid. 78% of sociology students reported receiving some form of financial aid, while 22% are not.

To round out our survey of sociology students we asked students a number of questions regarding their future desires to pursue sociological training. When asked if they would be interested in taking another sociology course in the future, 84% of students reported that they would like to take another sociology course in the future. When asked if they would be interested in pursuing a sociology major, 25% of students expressed a strong desire, and 20% of students expressed a desire to pursue a sociology major. Students also reported that sociology classes are available at times, which are convenient. 30% of respondents strongly agreed and 56% of respondents agreed that sociology courses are offered at convenient times. An equally large number of respondents reported that sociology faculty are available to students. 43% of respondents strongly agreed and 47% of respondents agreed that sociology faculty are available. Lastly, the vast majority of respondents report that they are satisfied with the academic advising they receive from the sociology faculty. When asked if they were satisfied with the advising they receive from sociology faculty, 48% reported that they strongly agreed, while 42% reported that they agreed. Finally, in terms of AAT awareness, about half of the students in sociology courses are aware of the Associate Arts degree for Transfer. 51% of our respondents reported being aware of the AAT degree, whereas 49% of our students were unaware of the AAT degree.

Overall, the survey paints a clear picture of the sociology department and the vital role the department plays in producing a climate of student success and academic excellence at Cerritos College. Of our 254 respondents, students expressed a high level of satisfaction with the courses, offerings, and faculty of the sociology department. It is important to note, that the majority of respondents were not

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sociology majors, which highlights the important interdisciplinary role that sociology plays in the academic culture of Cerritos College.

- c. Human Resources: The sociology department as of Fall 2018 has two full-time faculty members. Both of these faculty members hold a PhD in Sociology. Our faculty keep up to date on the discipline by attending conferences, reading current research.

Depending on the semester, we have anywhere between 5-7 part-time faculty members all of whom hold Master's degrees in Sociology and two hold PhDs. We have an administrative staff of 2 division secretaries and hourly division staff to support the department as needed.

- d. Scheduling patterns: Our AA-T degree was the first to be approved at Cerritos College. Because of the increase in the number of AAT degrees we award, we are now offering Sociology 202, Sociology 210 and Sociology 110 every semester where in the past, we had only offered them one time each year. These 3 courses are in our Area B requirement for the AA-T degree. Students have 3 classes to choose from and must take 2 of them. This allows for students to be able to complete the degree. Sociology 205: Research Methods is also offered each semester so that students have that as an option for Area A of our AA-T degree.
- e. Facilities: Our faculty have offices in the social science building with other social science faculty. The full-time faculty have offices just down the hall from each other. This enables students access to us and any questions they may have. We have a board outside one of the faculty offices where we post information relevant to our program and to transfer. Students who come to the office area are able to read information, ask questions and see faculty in one visit. We think this helps to create a community where faculty is available and open to helping students.
- f. Equipment/Technology: Our classrooms are all equipped with computers, projectors, DVD/video players and screens. This enables us to use various instructional software as well as web-based technology. Our offices are equipped with computers and access to printing. In terms of other equipment, we are a very low-maintenance department.

2. SWOT Analysis

- a. Strengths:
 - i. Our success and retention numbers are above the institutional standard of 70% in five of our courses (Soc. 110, 120, 202, 205, 220).

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- ii. The sociology department saw an increase of 273% in the number of degrees awarded from 2011/12 (30) to 2017/18 (82). Sociology has been in the top 10 majors at Cerritos College every year since 2009 with a peak of 542 in fall 2015 and most recently 437 in fall 2017 (the decline is consistent with overall enrollment numbers).
 - iii. In a student survey from Fall 2018 (see appendix), 83.9% of those surveyed said that they would be interested in taking another sociology class.
 - iv. 84.2% of those surveyed in Fall 2018 say that sociology classes are available to them at times that are convenient.
 - v. Students reported that they are happy with our faculty. In this survey, 89.2% of students said that the sociology faculty are available to them and 89.5% said that they are satisfied with the advising they get from the sociology faculty.
 - vi. WSCH: The Sociology department is a very efficient department. Our efficiency numbers are consistently higher than the division or the college numbers. The college target is **525**. Sociology has averaged **805** over the last 6 years. Our declines have been consistent with campus declines 2016-2018 due to enrollment decline. While this is a strength in that represents cost-efficiency of the department, it also represents the large size of our classes. Department is looking i to this relationship.
- b. Weaknesses:
- i. The department does not have an organized or streamlined process for assessing SLOs.
 - ii. The success rates in our Sociology 101 course is 67%. The campus standard is 70% and while not too far off this, it is lower.
 - iii. The department does not offer any on-line classes
 - iv. Some of our 200-level courses (Soc. 210, 215, 230, 250) have lower success rates than the department average (65%). These courses are important to our majors and we want to see them succeed.
 - v. The department has lost two of its full time faculty in three years due to retirement. We have hired one replacement.
- c. Opportunities
- i. A larger proportion of students are using community college as a pathway to a 4-year school and a bachelor's degree. According to The College Board, a study from "fall 2014, 42% of all and 25% of full-time undergraduates students were enrolled in community colleges" nationwide. (appendix)
 - ii. Sociology is part of the pre-nursing pathway.

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- iii. As of 2015, the MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test) has a 25% portion of it's exam dedicated to Psychological, Social and Behavioral Foundations of Behavior. This means that more pre-med students are required to take not just a social science for their general education, but Sociology specifically.

d. Threats

- i. Enrollment statewide of community college students is falling.
- ii. Cost of living in geographic area impacts our ability to hire and retain part-time faculty.

3. Goals of the Program

Ref	Goals	Action to be taken	Completion Date	Person/s Assigned
Mid-Range goals (1-3 years)				
W1	Create and Improve a sustainable SLO assessment cycle for classes	Investigate how other departments assess their courses	Fall 2019	Department faculty: Dunn Holzgang
		Work with the SLO office to develop procedures	Fall 2019	Dunn SLO office
		Implement SLO process	Fall 2020	Holzgang Dunn
		Reassess the process	Spring 2021	Holzgang Dunn
W3/1	Offer on-line course options for Soc. 202 and 201	Update curriculum to reflect the DE component of the course	Spring 2020	Holzgang
		Recruit part-time faculty to teach on-line	Fall 2020	Holzgang HR
W4	Increase success rates in 200-level courses to at least 70%	Adjust staffing and scheduling of classes	Fall 2020	Holzgang
		Update curriculum of 201, 210, 215, 230 to reflect new trends in the discipline (name of the course) as well as lower the class size to be close to the other 200-level	Fall 2020	Holzgang Dunn

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		courses (40) with higher success rates.		
		Hire more faculty to teach the respective classes	Fall 2020	Holfgang
S2	Increase number of majors 5%	Attend Major's Fair, Senior preview day to introduce students to our program	Fall 2020	Holfgang Dunn
		Meet with counselors to highlight sociology courses and the versatility of the major so they can promote them.	Fall 2019	Holfgang Dunn
O3/ W2	Increase enrollment of Soc. 101 by 2 sections	Develop connections to STEM pathways	Spring 2020/ Fall 2020	Holfgang
		Offer on-line and more evening options	Fall 2020	Holfgang
		Offer sections with our Dual Enrollment programs	Fall 2020	Holfgang
Long Range Goals (3-6 years)				
S2	Sustain 5% growth in number of sociology majors	Restart Sociology club to give students more ways to engage	Fall 2021	Dunn Holfgang
		Expand evening course offerings of 200-level courses	Fall 2021	Holfgang
		Create a seminar course with timely topics for majors to expand interests in the major (politics, race, cultural issues)	Spring 2022	Dunn Holfgang
W5	Create 2 new courses that	Hire new faculty with various specializations	Fall 2022	Holfgang Dunn

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	continue to address current trends in sociology	to increase our faculty diversity.		
		Write and take new courses through curriculum committee	Fall 2023	Holzgang Dunn Faculty to be named later

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Instructional Program Review Checklist (Appendix G)

This form is completed by the IPR committee during the review of each program's self-study report presentation (Phase 4)

Name of the Program Sociology

Visitation Date November 6, 2018

IPR Committee Liaison Patricia Robbins Smith

Evaluation of Compliance with Institutional Requirements	Yes	No
All courses in the program have been reviewed by the Curriculum Committee within the last six year cycle?	x	
Program is in compliance with guidelines established by the Student Learning Outcomes task force?	x	
Institutional Data used is current as of the draft due date?	x	
Program and Primary Data included information which is less than 2 years old?	x	

The self-study report adequately addresses the following components:

Description of Component

Description of the Program	Yes	No
Course and program content	x	
Student demographics	x	
Human resources	x	
Instructional Improvement	Yes	No
Teaching effectiveness	x	
Activities to improve student learning	x	
Course grading	x	
Course and program completion	x	
Program outcomes	x	
Core indicators (if vocational)	x	
Student feedback	x	
Institutional data	x	
Other	Yes	No
Strengths and weaknesses of the program	x	
Opportunities and threats of the program	x	
Goals of the program	x	

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Instructional Program Review Approval Form (Appendix H)

SOCIOLOGY

Committee Action taken:

Approved

Not Approved

Recommendations:

The committee would like more detailed data regarding age, gender, race, etc... from the Sociology Department
Good work!

Program Review Chair

J. A. Conley

Explanation for non-approval: