**Assessment Report for Sociology Major**
Spring 2010

At the conclusion of Fall 2009, the assessment plan for the Sociology major was approved. We have some, but not a lot of data to report since our considerable progress last semester. We have not made any revision to our assessment plan due to our concerns about the limited amount of initial data we have been able to collect.

The following represent the data we have collected since the Fall 2009 update:

We taught both of our Capstone courses (*A&S 336—Social Psychology: Sociological Perspectives*, *A&S 350—Comparative Families*) during Spring 2010. The respective professors (Melzer and Togundé) evaluated students’ final research papers using the first and second learning goals for our major. On the first learning goal, Data Analysis, nine students in A&S 336 produced a mean of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale), and eleven students in A&S 250 produced a mean of 3.3. On our second learning goal, Application of Sociological Theory, nine students in A&S 336 produced a mean of 2.3, and eleven students produced a mean of 3.3 in A&S 350. One reason why we are hesitant to use these data to make changes to our plan is that this is the first year we designated these courses as Capstones.

We also collected data via our senior exit survey. Five graduating seniors completed the survey, which included questions about the effectiveness of the training they received from our department. Students reported a mean of 1.6 (1=excellent, 2=good) quantitative skills ability and a mean of and 2.0 for their qualitative skills ability. This suggests that graduating seniors believe that the department is effectively meeting our first learning goal, Data Analysis. Students also reported that the department did a near-excellent (1.33 mean) job of training students on our second learning goal, Application of Sociological Theory.

Finally, we report data we have collected on indirect measures of student learning since 2005. The following students:

05-06: 2 Magna Cum Laude, 4 Cum Laude, 1 Phi Beta Kappa, 2 Honors Theses, 1 Rotary International Fellowship at University of Amsterdam (Kris Jelinek)
06-07: 2 Summa Cum Laude, 3 Magna Cum Laude, 8 Cum Laude, 4 Phi Beta Kappa, 3 Honors Theses
07-08: 4 Summa Cum Laude, 3 Magna Cum Laude, 5 Cum Laude, 2 Phi Beta Kappa, 2 Honors Theses
08-09: 2 Magna Cum Laude, 3 Cum Laude, 2 Phi Beta Kappa, 1 Honors Thesis
09-10: 1 Magna Cum Laude, 2 Cum Laude, 1 Phi Beta Kappa, 1 Honors Thesis

Since 2005, seven students have co-authored ten peer-reviewed journal articles with department faculty. Additionally, the following students have entered or completed graduate programs:

**Katie Meier '10** has been admitted to the Master's Program in Non-Profit Management at Indiana University
**Bethany Coston ’09** is in a PH.D. program in sociology at Stony Brook University
**Mike Light ’08** is in a Ph.D. program in sociology at Penn State University
**Greg Calabrese ’09** is in law school at Michigan State University
**Hillary Turner ’08** is in a Master’s in public health program at the University of Illinois-Chicago
**Megan Crumm ’08** is at Wesley Seminar College in New York
**Amy Krieg '08** is in law school at California Western School of Law in San Diego
**Caitlin McLaughlin ’08** has been admitted to an MSW program at Hunter College in New York
**Rachel Szymanski ’07** just graduated from a Master’s program in Ethnomusicology at Michigan State University
**Kyle Dodd ’07** just graduated from law school at DePaul University
**Nichole Duckham ’07** is in a Master’s program in Forensic Psychology at the University of Denver
**Chad Best '07** is currently in law school (Detroit Mercy) and received an MPA from the U. of M.-Flint
**Meagan Burton-Krieger '07** received her MA in Higher Ed Administration from the U of Vermont in 2009
**Carolyn Jacques '07** received her MDiv from Boston University in 2009
**Matti Smith '07** received her MSW from The University of Michigan in 2009
**Christen Neumeyer ’07** attended the MSW at Michigan State University
**Brandon Crawford ’06** completed a Master’s program in Urban Planning at Wayne State University
**Ayesha Ghazi '06** received her MSW from The University of Michigan
**Maggie Betscher ’05** attended law school at the Northern Illinois University College of Law
**Charles Lang ’05** attended law school at Temple University
**Lauren Downham ’05** attended an MSW program at Western Michigan University
**Caitlin Sitar ’05** attended an MSW program at the University of Michigan
**Kris Jelinek ’05** graduated from a Master’s in Education program from Bank Street College in New York

We believe these indirect measures suggest that our students, especially our top students, are successfully acquiring our first two learning goals, Data Analysis and Application of Sociological Theory.