

Proposal for Curriculum Change

to be approved by Academic Programs Committee

PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION

Title of proposal: Minor in Crime, Law, and Justice Studies

Degree(s): Bachelor of Arts

Field(s) of Specialization: Sociology

Level(s) of Concentration: Minor

Option(s): N/A

Degree College: Arts and Science

Department: Sociology

Home College: Arts and Science

Contact person(s) (name, telephone, fax, e-mail): Patricia Monture, Chair,
Undergraduate Studies, Department of Sociology, Tel: 966-6959; Email:
trisha.monture@usask.ca

Date:

Proposed date of implementation: September 2007

RATIONALE

This proposal is based on the student demand for criminology courses. It also reflects the department's desire to provide non-sociology students who complete the core courses in sociology in the area of crime, law and justice studies with an acknowledgement of their accomplishment.

The minor in Crime, Law and Justice Studies, compliments the programs offered in Native Studies, Political Studies, Psychology and Public Administration as well as being of interest to students in other disciplines.

With the development of the minor in Crime, Law and Justice Studies, department members felt strongly that students in our program should be respected and have the same opportunity for acknowledgement in this specialization as non-sociology students.

The Sociology department has for the last few years been engaged in revisions of their program so it more accurately reflects what the department does and the opportunities sociology offers to students. As part of this department plan, the department desires to find ways to reflect the "streams" or specializations, of which criminology is one, available to students in our department. Additionally, these objectives reflect the guidance the department received in the last

departmental review. We believe this strengthens the opportunities available in the college and provides another opportunity for cross-disciplinary study.

As other universities have criminology or sociology of law degree programs (U of T, Ottawa, Carlton, and SFU) this allows the department to be more competitive nationally.

DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS

Calendar Description:

The minor in Crime, Law and Justice Studies may be completed in conjunction with any Three-Year, Four-Year or Honours degree in the College of Arts and Science.

Non-Sociology Majors

Students must complete 21 credit units Sociology:

- SOC 212.3, 232.3, 233.3, 234.3; SOC 214.3 or 219.3;
- 6 credit units selected from SOC 311.3, 312.3, 329.3 334.3 or 341.3.*

Sociology Majors (B.A. Four-year only)

In addition to the requirements for the B.A. Four-year Sociology, students must complete 18 credit units Sociology:

- 15 credit units selected from SOC 212.3, 234.3; one of SOC 214.3 or 219.3; any two of SOC 311.3, 312.3, 329.3, 334.3 or 341.3
- 3 credit units selected from SOC 415.3, 419.3 or 439.3; or a class from list provided above not already completed as a minor requirement.*

Note: Students may not count the same courses towards the requirements for both a major and a minor subject area and a maximum of 60 credit units are allowed in one subject for the B.A. Four-year.

*In addition to the courses required for the Minor in Crime, Law and Justice Studies, students are encouraged to complete SOC 203.3, 205.3, or 206.3.

RESOURCES

New program does not require additional resources. As well, additional library, laboratory, information technology and equipment resources are not needed.

RELATIONSHIPS AND IMPACT OF IMPLEMENTATION

The department does not believe this will impact on any other departments or programs. Consultation with the College of Law was not required given the nature of the training that goes on in law schools (preparing people for the practice of law); there really isn't any overlap. The minor is a sociological approach to law which is vastly different.

BUDGET

Teaching and other course expenses will be accommodated within departmental budget.

COLLEGE STATEMENT

The proposed Minor in Crime, Law, and Justice Studies has been approved by the Arts & Science Programs Committee for the Humanities, Fine Arts and Social Sciences and subsequently by the Division of Social Sciences Faculty council. The College's approval process also requires that proposals are first vetted in the on-line Arts & Science *College Challenge*, along with consultation with cognate departments.

The proposed Minor is based on existing courses in the Department of Sociology; thus there are no resource implications for the College of Arts & Science.

The College believes that the availability of new programs such as the Minor in Crime, Law, and Justice Studies, which allows our students to explore a discipline outside of their major, has become essential. Students also feel that the additional credential provides them with an advantage in their pursuit of a career.