



COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PLANNING AND REVIEW

April 12, 2014
13-14 CAPR 20

TO: The Academic Senate
FROM: The Committee on Academic Planning Review (CAPR)
SUBJECT: 13-14 CAPR 20: Five-Year Program Review for B.A. Sociology and Social Services
PURPOSE: For Action by the Academic Senate
ACTION REQUESTED: Continuation of the program without modification; program will next be reviewed in 2016-2017

BACKGROUND:

Program Description and Resources:

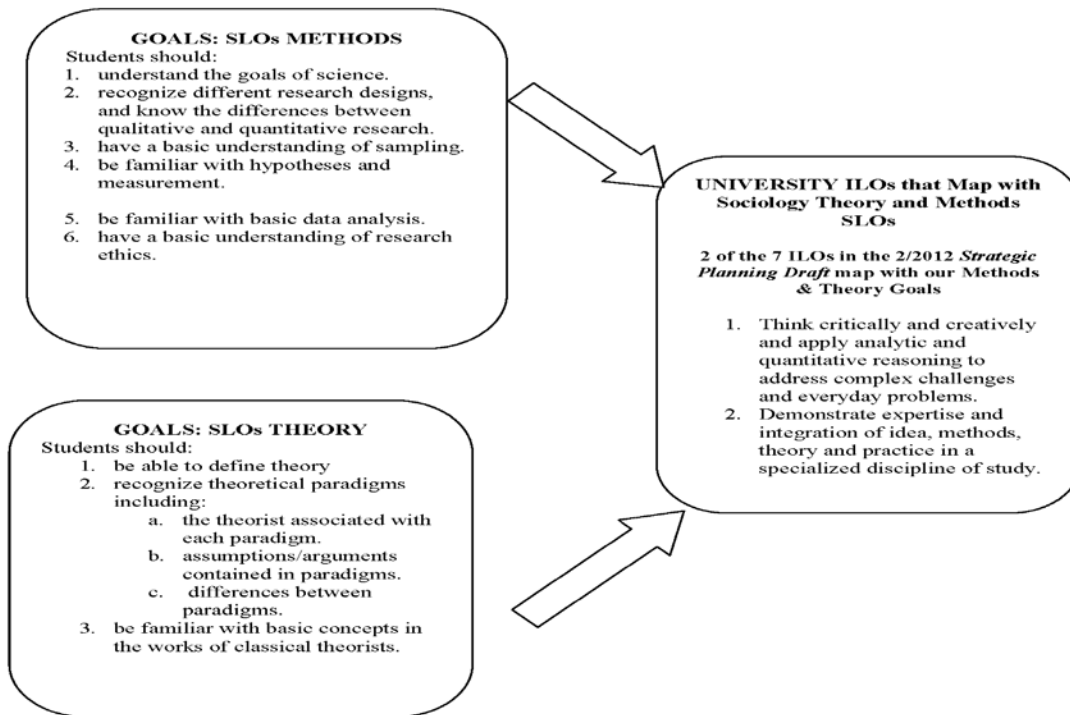
The Sociology and Social Services Department currently offers an undergraduate program with a Sociology and Social Services Option (SSO). It also offers a minor in Sociology. The Department serves students at both the Hayward and Concord campus. With around 500 majors in 2013, it is one of the larger majors in the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences. The number of majors has been on the increase over the past three years, it increased from 340 in 2011 to around 500 this year. Also a substantial number of CSU East Bay students, graduate with a minor in sociology. The student population is diverse with around 30% Hispanic, 20% black, 13% Asian, and 11% white. Majority of the students are female. The Social Services Option has proved to be very popular such that currently it serves about 80 students. The graduates of the program have proved themselves well by either securing employment or attending graduate school.

Over the past five years the number of tenure track faculty has been steady at around 8. However the number of students has increased steadily. Despite larger class sizes (SFR around 35), the faculty have managed to stay active in terms of research and service to the Department and the University. The Department is also very active in the general education cluster and upper division G.E. courses. The external reviewer suggested a review of the best practices for the capstone courses and development of a comprehensive assessment plan. He also suggested the development of a 5 year plan and the possible revival of the MA in Sociology degree program, which was suspended in 2009. Since the external review, the Department has developed a comprehensive 5 year plan, which includes offering new courses in sociology of sports, sexual oppression and economic sociology. They have also implemented a comprehensive assessment plan which includes the mapping of SLOs to ILOs and conducting surveys.

Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment:

The Department has developed a comprehensive assessment plan that is depicted in the following figure.

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In the past three years they have gone through cycles of assessment and have made program changes as a result of the assessment process. CAPR commends the assessment activities of the Sociology program. Also CAPR recommends exploring the feasibility of reviving the M.A. degree in Sociology program.

Resources

According to external reviewer and the apparent increase in the number of majors, the Department's resources are stretched. It appears that Social Services option will continue to attract more students. Therefore it is prudent for the University to support the program and its faculty.

CAPR Recommendation(s) for Continuation of the Program:

CAPR recommends that the program continue without modifications

Date of the Program's Next Five-Year Review: 2016-17