



# Student Learning Assessment Report, Academic

Report Year

2022-2023

Program

Sociology Major

Department Head

Rong Fu

Submitted By

Rong Fu

Previously Submitted Reports

2021-2022 Sociology Major

Mission

The Department of Sociology at Siena College is a vibrant academic community devoted to the pursuit of a systematic understanding of social groups, social institutions and social processes. The department ensures that our students gain theoretical and methodological grounding, examine social difference and develop critical social sensibilities, and make a difference in their world through civic engagement at the local, regional, national, and international levels.

## Assessment

### 1. Major/Program Student Learning Outcomes

Student will be able to...

Students will apply sociological theories to understand global societies.

SOCI 390 Sociological Theory which is taken by our juniors (Introduction to theory or mid-level comprehension)

### 2. Phase

Check all that apply

- Planning/ determining procedure
- Planning/ Redesigning based on past assessment
- Collecting/ analyzing assessment data
- Discussing/ using result
- Determining if Changes had an Impact on Student Learning
- Objective not assessed this year

### 3. Assessment Procedures (Planning/ determining)

Method: (ex. tests, presentations, research paper, describe the assessment course and student sample when it is applicable, etc.)

SOCI 390: Final Paper. Final assessment occurs at the end of the semester, but comprehension is assessed throughout the semester through various written and oral assignments.

When does assessment occur?

End of the semester

How often does assessment occur?

Once a year

Criteria (How do you know students are achieving learning outcome?)

SOCI 390: 75% of Sociology majors should receive a grade of B or above for their final paper, as well as be able to adequately lead a class discussion on a particular theorist once during the semester. Students should be able to analytically discuss and assess various theoretical positions studied throughout the semester as well as compare and contrast various theorists' contributions to the field.

### 4. Assessment Results (Collecting/ analyzing, please identify the sample size and course number when appropriate)

SOCI 390: For the Fall 2022 course, 89% of the Sociology majors (8 out of 9) received a satisfactory grade (B or above) for their final papers and final grades.

## Learning Outcome Met? (Based on Criteria)

Yes



## Assessment

### 1. Major/Program Student Learning Outcomes

Student will be able to...

Students will apply sociological research methodologies.

SOCI 495 (Advanced Level)

### 2. Phase

Check all that apply

- Planning/ determining procedure
- Planning/ Redesigning based on past assessment
- Collecting/ analyzing assessment data
- Discussing/ using result
- Determining if Changes had an Impact on Student Learning
- Objective not assessed this year

### 3. Assessment Procedures (Planning/ determining)

Method: (ex. tests, presentations, research paper, describe the assessment course and student sample when it is applicable, etc.)

SOCI 495: Senior Capstone Thesis (Advanced Level)

#### When does assessment occur?

End of the semester

#### How often does assessment occur?

Once a year

#### Criteria (How do you know students are achieving learning outcome?)

SOCI 495: 80% of Sociology majors will receive a grade of B or above for their senior thesis.

### 4. Assessment Results (Collecting/ analyzing, please identify the sample size and course number when appropriate)

In the 1-year sequence of the Senior Capstone, students completed the following theses:

- o Gender Disparities in Sports
- o How do police officers perceive the BLM Movement?
- o The Impact of Hate and Defunding Rhetoric on the Mental Health of Police Officers.
- o The Lasting Impacts of Domestic Violence
- o Wrongful Conviction: The New York Experience
- o The MLDA: Could it be Lowered?
- o The Effect of Climate Change on Ski Resorts in New York: Adaptations and Financial Burdens Faced in Light of Warmer Winters
- o Black Lives Matter Movement: The Takeaways
- o Affordable Housing Crisis in New York City
- o Decline in Fertility Rates in the United States
- o Inflation and Teacher Salaries in New York State
- o The Impact of Cyberbullying on Teens

Out of the 13 students in Sociology capstone, one student received an incomplete (8%); Twelve students (92%) received an A- and above.

The thesis included the followings sections:

- Abstract
- Literature Review
- Theoretical Framework
- Methodology
- Findings
- Discussion and Conclusion

All students were required to complete the following for their Capstone: a 30-40 page thesis, including IRB clearance, primary data collection, and presentation of the research findings at the Academic Celebration, determined the final grades. Students applied sociological theories and methodology to a major research assignment. The course saw the culmination of students' sociological training, including basic concepts from our 100-level courses, methods training in SOCI 304 Quantitative Methods, SOCI 306 Qualitative Methods, and more advanced theoretical training in our 300-level courses, to design and implement original research projects.

#### Learning Outcome Met? (Based on Criteria)

Yes

#### 5. Use of Results (Discussing/ using results)

The 1-year Capstone will be replaced by a 1-semester Capstone beginning in the 2023-2024 academic year. The department will discuss how the updated version of the Capstone will be taught and assessed in Fall 2023.

## Assessment

### 1. Major/Program Student Learning Outcomes

*Student will be able to...*

Examine issues of diversity and social identities in the U.S. and globally.

SOCI 240 Growing Older in a Global Environment (Planning)

### 2. Phase

*Check all that apply*

- Planning/ determining procedure
- Planning/ Redesigning based on past assessment
- Collecting/ analyzing assessment data
- Discussing/ using result
- Determining if Changes had an Impact on Student Learning
- Objective not assessed this year

### 3. Assessment Procedures (Planning/ determining)

**Method: (ex. tests, presentations, research paper, describe the assessment course and student sample when it is applicable, etc.)**

SOCI 240 Growing Older in a Global Environment  
Final Research Poster

#### When does assessment occur?

End of the semester

**How often does assessment occur?**

Once a year

**Criteria (How do you know students are achieving learning outcome?)**

SOCI 240: 70% of the students will receive a minimum grade of B.

**4. Assessment Results (Collecting/ analyzing, please identify the sample size and course number when appropriate)**

SOCI 240: 3 out of 4 Sociology majors (75%) received a B or above for their final research poster that explored diversity issues from a global perspective. This is the first time that SOCI 240 is being offered, and the majority of the students in this class are Health Studies majors. The assessment of this course will be conducted again when more Sociology majors are taking this course.

**Learning Outcome Met? (Based on Criteria)**

Yes



# Package History

Date	User	Action
5/24/2023 2:50:57 PM	Rong Fu	Submitted 'Student Learning Assessment Report'
5/24/2023 2:51:29 PM	School of Liberal Arts - Dean	Received
5/24/2023 2:51:29 PM	School of Liberal Arts - Asst. Dean	Received
5/24/2023 2:51:29 PM	Provost and Senior Vice President	Received
5/24/2023 2:51:29 PM	School of Science - Asst. Dean	Received
5/24/2023 2:51:30 PM	Rong Fu	Received
5/24/2023 2:51:30 PM	Tim Reno	Received
5/24/2023 2:51:30 PM	Institutional Effectiveness	Received
5/24/2023 7:25:33 PM	Margaret Madden	Decision Approved
8/21/2023 2:05:53 PM	Rong Fu	Decision Approved on step 'Department Head'