

Action Plan: Criminal Justice Programs

Date Self-Study was submitted to AQA: June 8, 2022

Date of External Review: July 6, 2022

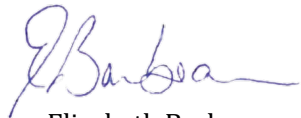
Institutional Response

The Department of Criminal Justice is to be commended on a fulsome Program Review and resulting Action Plan that will guide you for the coming years. You have developed some ambitious goals and have already begun to complete them.

You have worked hard in recent years to increase the number of courses you offer. You have regularly requested and been granted additional unbudgeted section to meet student demand; in 2019 this resulted in an additional 3 sections being converted to continuing contracts for your faculty. You have taken steps to diversify your curriculum through the creation of a new course on Deviance. You have plans to increase opportunities for experiential learning for your students. Finally, you plan to continue to indigenize your curriculum and will undertake a curriculum mapping exercise in the coming year.

These are all important steps towards your goal of growing the department. The Dean is committed to working with you to achieve your goals. Congratulations.

Signed



Elizabeth Barbeau

Dean

June 1st, 2023

Date

Signed



Julie Longo, AVP,

on behalf of the Provost and Vice-President

June 1st, 2023

Date

Recommendations from the Self-Study and External Review this Action Plan does NOT Address.

Provide a brief rationale for why each Recommendation cannot be addressed. Add or remove rows as necessary.

Recommendation	Self-Study or External Review (include p.#)	Rationale
Screening and support for students in the areas of language skills before entry into the programs/courses, such that insufficient language skills do not become a barrier to student success in our programs/courses	SS p. 19	The department acknowledges that poor language skills are an issue with many of our students, frequently to the extent that this lack of skills becomes a barrier to student success. However, our programs and courses already have English-language pre-requisites. These pre-requisites may be re-visited, but the situation appears to be outside of our department's control and more a function of gatekeeping as to whether those pre-requisites are adequate.
The Review Committee would like to encourage the department to think more strategically and wholistically about the role of communication within the industry and as an element of curriculum. It must also be noted that development of communication skills might blend well with developing elements of experiential learning into the curriculum.	ER p. 4	Both of our programs currently require an English course and a Communications course. Additionally, the Criminal Justice Diploma requires a Business presentation skills course. English-language communication skills are already incorporated into our curriculum planning for our programs.
The review committee would also like to encourage the department to celebrate and promote the multi-disciplinary / cross-disciplinary nature of the field. As such, finding places for a selection of tangential non-criminology electives relevant to criminology would be well received by students. (GIS and forensic chemistry were offered as examples.)	ER p. 4	The department already acknowledges the interdisciplinarity of the field by having courses taught by faculty with varied academic backgrounds and by including courses in the curriculum spanning: sociology, political science, psychology, English, busniess, communications, philosophy, Aboriginal Studies, anthropology, and statistics. The GIS and forensic chemistry examples suggested by the reviewers would present issues with regard to transferability.
Look into ways to provide funding and/or release for research opportunities within the department	SS p. 23	Such opportunities already exist through NID, Ed Leave, ARC, LRC, RSAF, and the Dean's Innovation Fund.
Create a network of former Langara CJUS/CRIM alumni	SS p. 26	This task is best left to the care of the Alumni Office.

Goal 1: Improve student experience into, through, and beyond our programs

Planned Actions: What Planned Actions will the department complete to achieve this goal? Add or remove rows as needed.

Planned Actions	Led by	Begin on	Anticipated Completion	Notes
Create a new course for the Criminology Diploma titled: <i>Sociological Explanations of Criminal and Deviant Behaviour</i> .	Melissa Roberts and Chantal Faucher	ASAP	March 2023; For offering in Spring 2024 (based on EdCo submission schedule)	Completed and approved by EdCo.
Apply for WOC funding for CRIM/CJUS-specific peer-tutors, recruit peer-tutors, promote and support them.; explore PSL option as well	Chantal Faucher	On-going	On-going	
Work with Domestic Recruiting to better promote our programs, including material for Lower Mainland school counsellors/ administrators, and info sessions.	Chantal Faucher	On-going	On-going	
Work with C&M to improve web presence (dept. and prog. pages on College website, social media).	Chantal Faucher and Melissa Roberts	On-going	On-going	
Examine opportunities for increasing experiential learning in a phased approach: 1) inventory of what is currently being done in the department that would be considered experiential learning; 2) consult with TCDC to help guide how to plan, implement, support experiential learning opportunities for students; 3) increase number of experiences or efficiency of organization of experiences, as needed.	Chantal Faucher	1) Fall 2024 2) Spring 2025 3) Fall 2025	1) Spring 2025 2) Summer 2025 3) Fall 2026	
Continue to offer some online or mixed mode courses to accommodate different types of learners.	Chantal Faucher	On-going	On-going	

What Self-Study or External Review Recommendations do the Planned Actions support? Check the appropriate column to indicate if the Recommendation is from the Self-Study or External Review. Add or remove rows as needed.

Recommendation	Self-Study (specify page #)	External Review (specify page #)
The Langara Self-Study notes that a review of all transfer agreements with other institutions should be undertaken to ensure all agreements are current and active. We agree, and in addition, we strongly recommend that the Department of Criminal Justice create and offer a course equivalent to Sociological Explanations of Crime and Deviance that can be articulated with SFU and Kwantlen Polytechnic University. The current practice of having students take a course outside of Langara's Criminal Justice Program that may or may not provide content transfer credit (student may only receive credit for a first year crim course, but not for the required course for majors), places an unfair risk to Langara students who intend to transfer to another BC institution to complete a BA.		3
Increase capacity of the department to teach more sections	8	
We support increasing capacity of department to teach more sections when existing sections exceed student demand.		3
Support for students in the area of course content, such as peer-tutors/peer-supported learning specific to criminology and criminal justice	19	
Work with Domestic Recruiting to better promote our program within the lower mainland high schools (school counsellors/administrators) and Hold info sessions for interested applicants on campus and via social media/zoom	8	
Review and update department and program web pages on the college site and Improve presence on social media (Twitter, Instagram, etc.)	8	
Screening and support for students in the areas of language skills before entry into the programs/courses, such that insufficient language skills do not become a barrier to student success in our programs/courses	19	
Incorporate more practical application and experiential learning in our programs	19	4
Continue to have at least some online or mixed mode course offerings to accommodate different types of learners (the data shows that most prefer face-to-face for the most part and asynchronous online seems the least popular)	20	
More communication/a course tracker to help students navigate courses completed/need/when offered, such as a program completion checklist	20	
The Review Committee would like to encourage the department to develop further tools and processes to support student pathways into (recruiting), through (navigating course options and program choices) and beyond the		4

Recommendation	Self-Study (specify page #)	External Review (specify page #)
<p>program (educational laddering or job search). Alumni wished there had been a more structured exposure to the variety of career options that are available to a criminology student. As such alumni reported being unsure of what classes to take and what classes lead to which outcomes. They described the process as "picking from a hat". The department would improve student experiences and perhaps help more students complete their studies if there were more support for students with career discernment, career options and helping students gaining the appropriate credits and experiences.</p>		

Which [Academic Plan 2025 Lens or Lenses](#) does this Goal supports? Add or remove rows as needed,

Academic Plan 2025 Lens (only include the title of the lens)
Holistic student engagement and support
Transformational learning experiences

What resources will be used to achieve this Goal? Indicate if existing resources will be used or if additional resources are requested.

Resources
<p>WOC and/or PSL funding for peer-tutors Assistance from TCDC, Domestic Recruiting, C&M Existing resources Continued growth of our programs would require additional office space – currently some full-time faculty (and all part-time) are sharing offices with 1-2 other colleagues</p>

Goal 2: Engage in a comprehensive review of the curriculum

Planned Actions: What Planned Actions will the department complete to achieve this goal? Add or remove rows as needed.

Planned Actions	Led by	Begin on	Anticipated Completion	Notes
<p>With assistance from TCDC, participate in a curriculum mapping exercise to review and update program and course learning outcomes, , as well as increasing experiential learning, where appropriate.</p>	Chantal Faucher	<p>Summer 2023 (for Diploma in CJ) Summer 2025 for Diploma in Crim)</p>	<p>Summer 2025 (for Diploma in CJ) Summer 2027 (for Diploma in Crim)</p>	

Planned Actions	Led by	Begin on	Anticipated Completion	Notes
Examine further methods for Indigenizing (and decolonizing) curriculum	Chantal Faucher	Fall 2023	On-going	
Review and update all transfer agreements with other institutions and explore block transfer options.	Chantal Faucher	Summer 2023	Spring 2024	
Review CJUS 1217 curriculum	Chantal Faucher	Summer 2023	Fall 2023; For offering in Spring 2025	Course is not permitted to be online or mixed mode (by JIBC); complete revamping of BST is underway, which will also impact CJUS 1217 curriculum

What Self-Study or External Review Recommendations do the Planned Actions support? Check the appropriate column to indicate if the Recommendation is from the Self-Study or External Review. Add or remove rows as needed.

Recommendation	Self-Study (specify page #)	External Review (specify page #)
Update and revise course learning outcomes and work with TCDC on curriculum mapping	11	
Continue to work on EDI and Indigenization of the curriculum and diversity of perspectives	11	
Review all transfer agreements with other institutions and ensure they are all active/up to date	11	
The Langara Self-Study notes that a review of all transfer agreements with other institutions should be undertaken to ensure all agreements are current and active. We agree, and in addition, we strongly recommend that the Department of Criminal Justice create and offer a course equivalent to Sociological Explanations of Crime and Deviance that can be articulated with SFU and Kwantlen Polytechnic University. The current practice of having students take a course outside of Langara's Criminal Justice Program that may or may not provide content transfer credit (student may only receive credit for a first year crim course, but not for the required course for majors), places an unfair risk to Langara students who intend to transfer to another BC institution to complete a BA.		3
Explore transfer agreement options such as block transfers	11	
Update CJUS 1217 through EdCo (including name change, course description and curriculum update)	11	

Which [Academic Plan 2025 Lens or Lenses](#) does this Goal supports? Add or remove rows as needed,

Academic Plan 2025 Lens (only include the title of the lens)
Holistic student engagement and support
Transformational learning experiences

What resources will be used to achieve this Goal? Indicate if existing resources will be used or if additional resources are requested.

Resources
Assistance from TCDC Existing resources

Goal 3: Revitalize the Program Advisory Committee

Planned Actions: What Planned Actions will the department complete to achieve this goal? Add or remove rows as needed.

Planned Actions	Led by	Begin on	Anticipated Completion	Notes
Review and reconnect with existing PAC members.	Melissa Roberts Chantal Faucher Robert Feenan	ASAP	April 2023	
Recruit new members and expand range of organizations included in the PAC.	Robert Feenan	ASAP	April 2023	
Review requirements for PACs at Langara and ensure we are meeting those requirements.	Chantal Faucher	ASAP	Fall 2023	
Discuss other ways to make involvement more engaging for PAC members and to connect them with students.	Chantal Faucher Robert Feenan	May 2023	Fall 2023	

What Self-Study or External Review Recommendations do the Planned Actions support? Check the appropriate column to indicate if the Recommendation is from the Self-Study or External Review. Add or remove rows as needed.

Recommendation	Self-Study (specify page #)	External Review (specify page #)
Look at the requirements for PACs at Langara and ensure that we are meeting the requirements for our CJUS PAC	26	5
Look at the requirements for PACs at Langara and ensure that we are meeting the requirements for our CJUS PAC	26	
Work with PAC members to create opportunities for our students for experiential learning, volunteer opportunities, training, etc.	26	

Which [Academic Plan 2025 Lens or Lenses](#) does this Goal supports? Add or remove rows as needed,

Academic Plan 2025 Lens (only include the title of the lens)
Social responsibility/community relationships

What resources will be used to achieve this Goal? Indicate if existing resources will be used or if additional resources are requested.

Resources
Assistance from Co-op and Career office Existing resources