



II. **Assessment Method(s)**: A measurable indicator of success in attaining the stated learning outcome(s). The methodology should be both reliable and valid. Please describe in detail.

- a. Formative Assessment Methods(s) and Description: a measurable indicator of student in-progress success in attaining the stated learning outcome(s).

As a result of participation in the IDA grant, the department has developed pre and post course assessments. The assessments are used consistently in the Soc 111-112, 145, 205 courses where the IDA modules have been used.

Student and faculty satisfaction surveys were also developed to assess the experience of using the IDA data modules.

- b. Summative Assessment Method(s) and Description: a measurable indicator of end-of-program success in attaining the stated program learning outcome(s).

The department is presently using a comprehensive multiple choice exam to assess end of sequence outcome attainment. The exam is facilitated through the use of perception software in the CASI(Center for Applied Social Issues) Lab.

\* Note: Every department is required to review Master Syllabi and Program Learning Outcomes a minimum of every two years.

- III. **Results:** A description of the actual results of overall student performance gathered from the summative assessment(s). (see III.b.)

The comprehensive quantitative exam has been used for one year. The initial results were not reported in a way that was readily interpretable. During Winter quarter we worked with Kathy Kaiser to design and implement a new method of retrieving data from perception. This new method was implemented in spring 03.

- IV. **Analysis/Actions:** From analysis of your summative assessment results, do you plan to or have you made any adjustments to your program learning outcomes, methodologies, curriculum, etc.? If yes, describe. If no, explain.

The data report from the spring 03 assessment exam will not be fully analyzed until Fall 03.

The results of the pre and post test in courses where the IDA modules were used, showed that students understanding of data analysis and basic scientific knowledge were 60% better than students in classes that did not use the modules.

The results of the qualitative surveys assessing the quality of the faculty and student experience using the IDA modules were also very favorable, and netted new ideas for further improvement of the module process.

The department is looking for ways to expand the use of the pre-and post test and the qualitative survey as a means of summative assessment.

- V. **General Education:** A description of where and how within the major the three primary general education outcomes\* (communication, thinking, values/citizenship/community) are assessed.

- a. Where within the major do you assess written communication? Describe the assessment method(s) used. Describe assessment results if available.

Although members of the department do use the written communication check list, Sociology does not at this time have a formal method of assessing the attainment of written communication.

- b. Where within the major do you assess oral communication? Describe the assessment method(s) used. Describe assessment results if available.

Although members of the department do use the oral communication check list, Sociology does not at this time have a formal method of assessing oral communication.

- c. Where within the major do you assess thinking? Thinking might include inventing new problems, seeing relationships and/or implications, respecting other approaches, demonstrating clarity and/or integrity, or recognizing assumptions. Describe the assessment method(s) used. Describe assessment results if available.

Sociology does not at this time have a formal method of assessing critical thinking.

- d. Where within the major do you assess values/citizenship/community? These activities might include behaviors, perspective, awareness, responsibility, teamwork, ethical/professional standards, service learning or community participation. Describe the assessment method(s) used. Describe assessment results if available.

Sociology does not at this time have a formal method of assessing values/citizenship/community.

- \* Note: The oral communication checklist and the written communication checklist developed by the General Education Committee were adopted for college-wide use during the 1997-98 academic year by Academic Council. Thinking Guidelines developed by the General Education Committee are being piloted by faculty during the 1998-99 academic year.