

Annual Key Assessment Findings and Curricular Improvements
Department of Sociology
Master's Program in Sociology

Key Assessment Findings

Please report findings from data that you display in this section.

- *Programs with specialized accreditation data should insert tables or figures with such data (e.g. pass rates on professional licensure exams) and discuss this data.*

N/A

- *Schools/Departments should present data regarding passage or failure on comprehensive exams.*

The passing rate for our graduate students is 100 percent. The graduate comprehensive is offered every Spring semester. The rate of passing in the department is the result of the effort of the faculty mentoring.

- *Schools/Departments should present data in tables based upon rubrics for key assessments. Describe the findings in the text as well, i.e. what is the pattern of the results?*

In addition to our comprehensive exam, our graduate students complete two seminar papers under the close supervision of a faculty mentor. Once the papers are finalized, they are submitted to the chair for independent final approval and to assess compliance with the department expectations.

- *Briefly present data from other sources if needed.*

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA
Financial Planning, Institutional Research and Assessment

GRADUATE COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION RESULTS
SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
AY2009-2010 to AY2013-2014

Master's Comprehensive Exam

	Fail		Pass		High Pass		Pass w/Honors		TOTAL
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
AY2009-2010		0.00%	1	100.00%		0.00%		0.00%	1
AY2010-2011		0.00%	3	100.00%		0.00%		0.00%	3
AY2011-2012		0.00%	2	100.00%		0.00%		0.00%	2
AY2012-2013		0.00%	2	100.00%		0.00%		0.00%	2
AY2013-2014		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	0
TOTAL	0	0.00%	8	100.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	8

Doctoral Comprehensive Exam

	Fail		Pass		High Pass		Pass w/Honors		TOTAL
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
AY2009-2010		0.00%	1	100.00%		0.00%		0.00%	1
AY2010-2011		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	0
AY2011-2012		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	0
AY2012-2013		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	0
AY2013-2014		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	0
TOTAL	0	0.00%	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1

Note:

- 1) Milestone outcomes were included in the categories High Pass and Pass with Honors if these designations were explicitly indicated in the students' milestone record.
- 2) Category "High Pass" includes both "High Pass" and "Pass with distinction".
- 3) The count in this table is based on the exam outcomes of all attempts in an academic year.
- 4) Level of the comps, i.e. Master's and doctoral, is based on the milestone activities; if there is no specification of the level in the record, students' degree level is used to determine the level.

Curricular Improvements

Briefly describe improvements to the curriculum or student supports that will be introduced subsequent to the findings, if any. Comment on the effects of recent curricular improvements in light of data if known. For example, the improvements may include changing the structure of particular courses, requiring prerequisite courses or skills, providing special advisement, introducing earlier experiences with parts of what become key projects or papers.

In the past few years the department has introduced new graduate courses and has revised the content of existing ones. For instance, a new course on the sociology of religion and national development has been very popular with students since it was first offered about a year ago. Every semester, the department either offers a new course or revives an existing course not offered in a while. Finally, our graduate students are encouraged to take an internship before

graduation. This practice has resulted in high employment rates among students seeking work after graduation.

With respect to research, we encourage every graduating student to present at a professional conference, often at the Eastern Sociological Society. Students have participated in faculty research and even published jointly with faculty mentors.

Lastly with regards to advisement, the department developed a graduate tracking sheet to assure on time graduation.