UW-WHITEWATER INTENT TO PLAN DOCUMENT

**Description of the program, including:**

1. **A tentative catalog description of the program:**

*With a Criminology Major students learn about explanations and evidence regarding the causes of a range of criminal and delinquent behaviors and about the operation of the U.S. criminal justice system. They can focus on a law enforcement and investigation track or an adult and youth corrections track.*

1. **A tentative list of courses to be included in the program (use \* to indicate new courses)**

Criminology Major: 36 units

Unique requirement: Sociology 265 (Race & Ethnic Relations)

REQUIRED COURSES (21-24 units)

SOC 276 – Introduction to Criminology

SOC 374 – Sociology of Police & Courts

SOC 378 – Sociology of Punishment & Corrections

SOC 475 - Criminological Theory \*

SOC 295 – Basic Social Statistics

SOC 476 - Social Research Methods

One of the following: SOC 493 – Applied Sociology (Internship) 3-6 units, or SOC 498R (undergraduate research), or SOC 495 (Seminar)

Criminal Behavior & Victimization (6-9 Units)

SOC 370 – Juvenile Delinquency

SOC 371 – Sociology of Homicide

SOC 372 – White Collar Crime

SOC 373 – Sociology of Terrorism

SOC 379 – Women and Crime

PICK ONE TRACK ONLY

Law Enforcement and Investigation Track

CRIMJUS 321 – Criminal Investigation and 3-6 Units from the following:

CRIMJUS 322 – Criminal Investigation of Child Abuse

CRIMJUS 325 – Forensic Documentation

CRIMJUS 329 - Investigation of Death

POLSCI 415 – Criminal Justice and the Constitution

SOC 426 - Minorities and the Criminal Justice System

Adult and Youth Corrections Track

CRIMJUST 327 - Community Corrections and Treatment and 3-6 Units from the following:

COMM 244 - Communication and Interviewing

COMM 328 - Communication and Conflict Resolution

SOCWORK 235 - Child Welfare

SOC 426 - Minorities and the Criminal Justice System

1. **Goals and learning objectives of the program**
   1. All students will acquire a foundation on patterns of criminal behavior, the operation of criminal justice system and politics of crime control policies.
   2. Students will master a set of quantitative and qualitative analytic and research skills needed to conduct small scale applied studies and interpret criminology findings.
   3. Students will learn the assumptions and principles of the major theories of crime, compare evidence in support of the theories, and explore policy implications of the theories.
   4. Students will develop basic understanding of the causes of criminal and delinquent behaviors, as well as the consequences of such behaviors for communities and victims.
   5. Students will acquire an understanding of law enforcement and crime investigation processes, the structure and operation of the criminal justice system, youth-adult corrections and treatment programs, and crime control policies.

**The need for the program, including information on student demand and market demand for graduates;**

Roughly 70 percent of the 450 Sociology Majors are in the 57 credit Sociology-Criminal Justice Emphasis program. Students have been placed in law enforcement, corrections, investigation professions, and throughout the local, state and federal criminal justice system. The Emphasis program was created in 1997 because a major in Criminology was not politically feasible. The proposed new 36 unit major came out of discussions during the Audit and Review Self Study of the Sociology Major and of the Criminal Justice Minor. This new major streamlines and sharpens the preparation of students who are interested in law enforcement, corrections-treatment, crime control, and related careers. The name change from Criminal Justice to Criminology better reflects the content of this specific program and distinguishes it from narrowly-focused, applied programs offered elsewhere.

**An explanation of the relation of the proposed program to the institutional mission, strategic plan, goals and objectives**;

The new 36 credit Criminology Major is a replacement for an existing 57 credit Sociology-Major, Criminal Justice Emphasis that was created in 1997.

The existing program array. UW-Whitewater has the following related programs a Sociology Major – No Emphasis (36 credits), Sociology Major – Global-Comparative Emphasis (57 credits), Sociology Major – Honors Emphasis (57 credits), and Sociology Major – Criminal Justice Emphasis (57 credits). There is also a Criminal Justice Minor (24 credits) and Forensic Science Minor (21 credits). The new major consists of sociology and criminal justice courses, along with elective courses in political science and communication. There are no overlapping or duplicate programs.

Institutional Mission: The new major is consistent with Item #1 of the UW-Whitewater Mission is “To provide a range of undergraduate programs and degrees, including interdisciplinary programs, in letters, sciences, and the arts as well as programs and degrees leading to professional specialization.” The program will meet the educational and career needs of students.

Strategic Plan: The new major reinforces Item I of the UW-Whitewater Strategic Plan, “We will broaden accessibility to education and services through innovative and responsive curricula, instructional delivery methods and co-curricular programs, and focus on continuous improvement of programs and services through the assessment of learning outcomes and evaluation of effectiveness of university services.” It is part of an innovative and responsive curricula.

**A discussion of the relationship of the proposed program to other academic programs in the UW System, and region, and , if appropriate, the nation**;

The proposed Criminology Major, with its emphasis on social science and sociological criminology in particular is relatively unique to the State of Wisconsin. Only Marquette University offers a degree called Criminology rather than Criminal Justice, and their program, which is affiliated with the Marquette School of Law, is more focused on the study of law. Other Criminal Justice programs are offered through independent Criminal Justice Departments (UW-Milwaukee, UW-Parkside, UW-Oshkosh) or are affiliated with political science (UW-Eau Claire) rather than Sociology. The Criminal Justice program at UW-Platteville is more applied to the exclusion of social science. UW-Stevens Point offers a Criminal Justice emphasis within the Sociology Department but not a major.

**The projected source of resources (reallocation, external funds, request for new dollars).**

The new major is a conversion of an existing program. The only new resources needed is for one faculty position, which has been approved and for which a nations search is being undertaken.