

The Bachelor Of Science In Criminology Program Of International School Of Asia And The Pacific

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Abstract

This study examined the extent of compliance of the Bachelor of Science in Criminology Program of the International School of Asia and the Pacific to the Policies, Standards, and Guidelines prescribed in CMO No. 5, series of 2018. Using documentary analysis, the areas of Administration, Faculty, Curriculum, and Research were thematically analyzed, while, the areas of Library, Laboratory, Student services, Physical Facilities and equipment, Community Extension and Services were assessed by the students, faculty members, and alumni through a structured survey questionnaire. Findings showed that the Criminology program met the required standard in terms of administration, curriculum, and research, however, needing improvement on faculty area. Further, the program has well-complied on Library, Laboratory, Student services, Physical Facilities and equipment, and Community Extension and Services.

Keywords: *Administration, Faculty, Curriculum, Research, Library, Laboratory, Student services, Physical Facilities and equipment, Community Extension and Services.*



Introduction

Criminology programs are shaping the future of our societies by providing individuals with the knowledge and skills to understand and address crime, justice, and public safety issues, it is not just an academic endeavor but it serves as a catalyst for transformation.

Since criminology provides theoretical and practical tools needed to understand, prevent, and respond to crime, it has become increasingly important internationally in the last decade. Various organizations, including the UNODC's Education for Justice, the European Society of Criminology, and academic journals, have conducted research that clearly demonstrates the global value of these programs. In 1954, the Philippine College of Criminology (PCCr) formerly known as the Plaridel Educational Institution, located in Manila, was established as the first institution in the Philippines to offer criminology programs. The founder established this program because, at that time, the Philippines faced significant challenges related to crime and public safety, and there was a recognized need for trained professionals to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of law enforcement agencies. As the region's population increased and urbanization led to an increase in crime rates, the demand for trained professionals to address crime prevention, investigation, and rehabilitation efforts led to the establishment of numerous colleges and universities offering criminology programs to include the International School of Asia and the Pacific.

In order to guarantee the quality and relevance of criminology education in the nation, institutions that provide the criminology program must adhere to CHED Memorandum No. 5, Series of 2018. This CMO outlines the Revised Program Standards and Guidelines for Bachelor of Science in Criminology program, to ensure that the Higher Education Institutions can provide excellent education and training for criminology students. This will equip students for careers in law enforcement, crime prevention, scientific crime detection, and correctional administration, ensuring they are ready to meet the demands of the criminal justice system.

Due to the limited research conducted specifically to assess the extent of compliance of the International School of Asian and the Pacific, this study aims to fill this gap by providing an updated, comprehensive evaluation of the criminology program's adherence to current CHED standards, as well as by examining its resources, faculty qualifications, and students' outcomes to ensure it is aligned with both educational and industry expectations. This serves as a basis for the future accreditation of the institution.

Objectives of the Study

This study assessed the extent of compliance of the Bachelor of Science in Criminology Program of the International School of Asia and the Pacific to the Policies, Standards, and Guidelines prescribed in CMO No. 5, series of 2018.

Specifically, it sought to answer the following questions:

1. What is the extent of compliance of the Criminology program based on documents relative to the following areas?
 - 1.1. Administration
 - 1.2. Faculty
 - 1.3. Curriculum
 - 1.4. Research



2. What is the extent of compliance of the BS Criminology program as assessed by the students, alumni, and faculty relative to the following areas?

- 2.1. Library
- 2.2. Laboratory
- 2.3. Student services
- 2.4. Physical Facilities and equipment
- 2.5. Community Extension and Services

Methodology

Employing a mixed method to present and analyze data gathered in this study. Descriptive research served as a foundational element, facilitating the systematic documentation of existing conditions and practices within the Bachelor of Science in Criminology Program as it relates to compliance with CMO No. 5, series of 2018. Specifically, a qualitative approach through a documentary analysis was employed to examine the areas of Administration, Faculty, Curriculum, and Research. While, quantitative approach through a survey questionnaire administered among faculty members, students, and alumni was applied to assess the areas of Library, Laboratory, Student services, Physical Facilities and equipment, and Community Extension and Services. Moreover, thematic analysis was employed to qualify the data obtained from the document relevant, while weighted mean was used to quantify the perspectives of the respondents.

Results and Discussion

1. The extent of compliance of the Criminology program to the Policies, Standards, and Guidelines prescribed in CMO No. 5, series of 2018.

TABLE 1.
THE EXTENT OF COMPLIANCE OF THE CRIMINOLOGY PROGRAM BASED ON DOCUMENTS

AREA	STATUS/FINDINGS
1.1. Administration	COMPLIED
1.2. Faculty	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT
1.3. Curriculum	COMPLIED
1.4. Research	COMPLIED

The preceding table underscores that the institution has met the prescribed standards in the operation of the Criminology program along the areas of administration, curriculum, and research. This data denotes the strong adherence of the institution to providing quality services and programs for the clientele. Nevertheless, the faculty area came short, which suggests the need for the institution to upgrade its faculty line-up in order to achieve the standards set in offering a B.S. Criminology program.

The above finding is comparable to the discovery of Habiatan, E. (2019), claimed that to ensure strong foundational operation of an institution, there shall be meeting of the prescribed academic, administrative, and infrastructural requirement, which that HEI institution must align with the broader standards outlined by Commission on Higher Education. Besides, the above result is parallel with the study of Rodriguez (2022) claiming that many educational institutions keep curricula aligned with existing policies, which showed the importance of regularly reviewing and adjusting programs to remain compliant and effective. Besides, the adherence to CHED standards is not only about meeting national requirements but also about ensuring students are all well-prepared for their future professions.

2. The extent of compliance of the BS Criminology program as assessed by the students, alumni, and faculty members & administrators

TABLE 2
THE EXTENT OF COMPLIANCE OF THE BS CRIMINOLOGY PROGRAM AS ASSESSED
BY THE STUDENTS, ALUMNI, AND FACULTY & ADMINISTRATION ALONG
LIBRARY AREA

Statements	STUDENT S		ALUMNI		FACULT Y AND ADMIN		OVER-ALL	
	WM	D.I	WM	D.I	WM	DI	WM	DI
1. The library is headed by a full time librarian	3.49	WC	3.49	WC	3.44	W C	3.47	W C
2. The library is attended by adequate number of staff	3.49	WC	3.45	WC	3.33	W C	3.42	W C
3. The are available Professional Book Holdings of at least three (3) titles per professional course	3.47	WC	3.39	WC	3.78	W C	3.55	W C
4. The available professional books are published within 10 years	3.41	WC	3.38	WC	3.56	W C	3.45	W C
5. There are available journals from international subscription	3.43	WC	3.4	WC	3.67	W C	3.50	W C
6. There are available journals from local subscription	3.46	WC	3.41	WC	3.67	W C	3.51	W C
7. There are available newspapers subscriptions	3.46	WC	3.45	WC	3.78	W C	3.56	W C
CATEGORICAL MEAN	3.46	WC	3.42	WC	3.60	W C	3.50	W C

*WC: Well complied

The foregoing table highlights the combined assessment across all respondent groups yielded a categorical mean of 3.50, interpreted as Well Complied, affirming that the BSCRIM program library broadly satisfies required standards and adequately addresses the academic and research needs of its users. The statement "There are available newspaper subscriptions" obtained the highest overall mean of 3.56, while "The library is attended by an adequate number of staff" recorded the lowest at 3.42. These results collectively indicate that the library is

performing well in terms of resource provision; however, strategic investments in staffing capacity and the continuous updating of professional collections remain critical priorities for improvement to ensure the sustained delivery of high-quality library services.

This finding is consistent with the study of Corpuz (2020), which assessed the library resources and functional effectiveness of Nueva Vizcaya State University (NVSU) in the Philippines and revealed that the library services generally surpassed minimum requirements on holdings and core collections, with respondents perceiving library resources as adequate in supporting students' curricular needs. However, the identified concerns regarding staffing adequacy and the currency of library materials are consistent with the observations of Marigodo (2025), claiming that libraries face challenges in meeting CHED standards, particularly in terms of information technology infrastructure, collection management, and staffing. The relatively lower ratings in these areas in the present study reinforce the need for continuous improvement and adaptation to evolving accreditation requirements.

TABLE 3
THE EXTENT OF COMPLIANCE OF THE BS CRIMINOLOGY PROGRAM AS ASSESSED
BY THE STUDENTS, ALUMNI, AND FACULTY & ADMINISTRATION
WITH LABORATORY AREAS

Area	STUDENTS		ALUMNI		FACULTY AND ADMIN		OVER-ALL	
	WM	D.I	WM	D.I	W M	DI	W M	DI
Computer Laboratory	3.29	WC	3.03	WC	3.15	C	3.16	C
Chemistry laboratory	3.43	WC	3.27	WC	3.43	WC	3.38	WC
Crime Laboratory	3.53	WC	3.22	C	3.78	WC	3.51	WC
Forensic Chemistry	3.45	WC	3.13	C	3.61	WC	3.40	WC
Categorical Mean	3.43	WC	3.16	C	3.49	WC	3.36	WC

*WC: Well complied C: Complied

The preceding table displayed that the BS Criminology program has met the required laboratory equipment as indicated in the categorical mean of 3.36, interpreted as well-complied. This result magnifies that laboratory services are provided to clients, ensuring a comprehensive academic experience among learners. On the other hand, the lowest categorical mean of 3.16, interpreted as Complied is achieved along computer laboratory areas, which indicates the meeting of the minimum standards but has notable areas for improvement.

This finding is consistent with the study of Caballes et al. (2023), which assessed the status of science laboratory resources in Philippine schools and revealed that while physical infrastructure such as lighting and ventilation was generally rated as good, the adequacy of specific equipment and materials consistently fell below required standards. The study emphasized that laboratory resource deficiencies, particularly in equipment and operational supplies, have a direct bearing on the quality of practical instruction. In the same vein, a study published in the International Journal for Multidisciplinary Research (2024) found that inadequate laboratory facilities — including non-functional equipment, lack of accessories, and

outdated units — significantly hinder student engagement and performance in laboratory-based subjects across Philippine higher education institutions, reinforcing the critical need for systematic procurement and maintenance programs.

TABLE 4
THE EXTENT OF COMPLIANCE OF THE BS CRIMINOLOGY PROGRAM AS
ASSESSED BY THE STUDENTS, ALUMNI, AND FACULTY & ADMINISTRATION
WITH STUDENT SERVICES

Areas	STUDENTS		ALUMNI		FACULTY AND ADMIN		OVER-ALL	
	WM	D.I	WM	D.I	WM	DI	WM	DI
Admission and Retention	3.46	WC	3.26	WC	4.00	WC	3.51	W C
Academic loads	3.44	WC	3.36	WC	3.74	WC	3.51	W C
Guidance and Services	3.50	WC	3.40	WC	3.43	WC	3.44	W C
Categorical mean	3.47	WC	3.34	WC	3.72	WC	3.49	W C

*WC: Well complied

The foregoing data disclosed that the BS Criminology program achieved the requirement set for student services, as reflected in the categorical mean of 3.49, interpreted as well-complied. These results denote strong services provided for the benefits of the students, highlighting the advocacy of the institution to provide utmost welfare to the clients.

This finding is consistent with the study of Galang et al. (2024), which found that the implementation of clear and consistently enforced admission and retention policies was a key institutional factor associated with higher board examination performance. The study emphasized that retention policies that define minimum academic standards and are systematically operationalized serve as a critical quality assurance mechanism that motivates students to meet program expectations and ultimately improves graduate competence. Similarly, the study of Dichoso and Chua (2024) on the selective retention policy of a teacher education program in the Philippines found that institutions with clearly defined and well-implemented admission and retention policies produced graduates with consistently higher licensure examination performance, underscoring the critical role of structured and transparent retention criteria in maintaining academic standards and ensuring program quality — findings that directly affirm the strong compliance ratings observed in the present study's assessment of the BSCRIM program's admission and retention policies. Contrary, Dionaldo and Espinosa (2024) assessed the guidance services implemented by secondary schools in General Santos City, Philippines, and found that while orientation programs, career guidance, and developmental counseling were generally assessed as effective and well-implemented, follow-up services for graduate employment and job placement were consistently identified as the weakest component of school guidance systems.

TABLE 5
THE EXTENT OF COMPLIANCE OF THE BS CRIMINOLOGY PROGRAM AS
ASSESSED BY THE STUDENTS, ALUMNI, AND FACULTY & ADMINISTRATION WITH
PHYSICAL FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT

Statements	STUDENTS		ALUMNI		FACULTY AND ADMIN		OVER-ALL	
	WM	D.I	WM	D.I	W M	DI	WM	DI
Building	3.42	WC	3.26	WC	3.57	WC	3.57	WC
Classroom	3.41	WC	3.29	WC	3.64	WC	3.45	WC
Tables and chairs	3.47	WC	3.44	WC	3.81	WC	3.57	WC
Sports facilities	3.04	SC	2.84	SC	2.44	SC	2.77	SC
Categorical mean	3.34	WC	3.21	WC	3.37	WC	3.34	WC

*WC: Well complied SC: Slightly Complied

The foregoing table exposed that the BS Criminology program has provided the necessary requirements set for physical facilities and equipment as indicated in the categorical mean 3.34, interpreted as well-complied. The figure entails that the institution has secured sufficient buildings, classrooms, tables and chairs crucial for academic activities. Nevertheless, the institution fell limited in constructing sports facilities, as reflected in the overall mean 2.77. This result suggests the need for the institution to construct additional sports facilities to cater student activities beyond academic trust.

This finding is aligned with the study of Petilo (2024), which evaluated the compliance of educational facilities with Sustainable Development Goal in Philippine mega schools and found that structural and electrical aspects of school buildings were generally satisfactory. Furthermore, the research paper on school infrastructure in the Philippines by Domingo et al. (2024) emphasized that the adequacy of classroom facilities, including both general and specialized rooms, is a critical determinant of instructional effectiveness, and that institutions with specialized programs such as criminology should prioritize the establishment of purpose-built learning environments that align with their disciplinary requirements.

TABLE 6

 THE EXTENT OF COMPLIANCE OF THE BS CRIMINOLOGY PROGRAM AS ASSESSED
 BY THE STUDENTS, ALUMNI, AND FACULTY & ADMINISTRATION WITH
 COMMUNITY EXTENSION SERVICES

Statements	STUDENTS		ALUMNI		FACULTY AND ADMIN		OVER-ALL	
	WM	D.I	WM	D.I	WM	DI	WM	D I
Priorities and relevance	3.40	WC	3.30	WC	3.50	WC	3.40	WC
Planning, Implementation, Monitoring And Evaluation	3.39	WC	3.35	WC	3.50	WC	3.41	WC
Funding and other Resources	3.38	WC	3.22	WC	2.83	C	3.14	C
Categorical mean	3.39	WC	3.29	WC	3.28	WC	3.32	WC

*WC: Well complied C: Complied

The preceding table reflects that the BS Criminology program has achieved the requirements set for community extension area, as indicated in the categorical mean 3.32, interpreted as well complied. This result underscores the unwavering activities of the institution extended to the stakeholders and clientele in the service community.

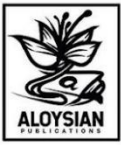
This finding is supported by the meta-synthesis of Dayao et al. (2024), as cited in *Frontiers in Education* (2026), which reviewed qualitative studies on Philippine HEI extension programs from 2021 to 2024 and found that while community extension activities were broadly perceived as relevant and aligned with institutional objectives, the establishment and sustainability of formal external linkages remained a consistent challenge across institutions. The study emphasized that HEIs that invested in community-needs assessment and partnership building produced extension programs with demonstrably greater relevance and impact. Similarly, Borbon et al. (2022) examined students' experiences in community extension services and underscored that extension activities that are clearly aligned with the academic program's curriculum and anchored on actual community needs result in deeper student learning and stronger community outcomes.

Conclusion

The Bachelor of Science in Criminology Program of International School of Asia in the Pacific adheres to the Policies, Standards, and Guidelines prescribed in CMO No. 5, series of 2018. It meets the minimum standards for its operations providing quality education and services among stakeholders. Nevertheless, to uplift the status of the program, there is a need to intensify the operation particularly on improving the qualification of faculty members, providing more laboratory equipment, and construction of sports facilities.

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