Request for Curriculum Council Action (p. 1 of 2)

	(Ple	ase submit 1 double-sided copy of you	ır proposal)	
ROM: (Name)		(Department)		
nail address:				
WRITTEN RATIONALES: At	tach a written rationa	ale, following the guidelines found in th		
submission, you must read		ok.pdf. Please note that CC will not evalines carefully.	iluate incomplete proposals. To i	<u>expedite con</u>
Proposed Action (Please ch	eck all that apply):			
[] New Course	Title		Number /	Units /
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[] Deletion of Major/Mir			1	,
[] Concentration				
[] Change title from	·			
to				
[] Change number from				
to			1	/
[] Change prerequisites f	rom		1	/
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[] May Term Course			/	/
[] New Major/Minor				
[] Revised Major/Minor/				
Concentration				
[] Other (please specify)			1	/
If you are requesting Gener	al Education unit cre	dit, please check the category:		
[] Analysis of Values [] The Arts] Gateway Colloquium (see 9b. below Intellectual Traditions	/) [] Life Science Lab[] Physical Science Issu	195
[] Contemporary Social I	-] Literature	[] Physical Science Lab	
[] Cultural and Historical [] Formal Reasoning		Second Language Life Science Issues	[] Physical Education [] Fitness	
. Please check the flag(s), if a	ny, you are seeking:			
[] Writing Intensive]] Global Diversity	[] U.S. Diversity	
. Does this course already ca	rry General Education	n credit? [] Yes [] No		
If yes, which category	•	• •		
Will the existing categ	_			=

Request for Curriculum Council Action (p. 2 of 2)

3d.	In what way will you assess how this course has met the goals of the Gen Ed category and/or flag(s) for which you are applying? [] Use the Gen Ed Student Survey (Administered by the Registrar's Office) [] Use a different tool/method (please explain)				
1.	Please insert here the proposed catalog course description. Course descriptions should be limited to no more than 50 words. The descrinclude (a) title; (b) prerequisites; (c) General Education category; and (d) when offered, although those four items do not count against word limit.				
5.	Please list any prerequisites:				
õ.	When will this course first be offered? (cannot	be current or past term)			
7.	the University Catalog, please do not edit or all	neck only the single item that best describes this course. Because these are the only intervals used in ter the list to fit a particular course. For example, if your course is offered every third year—an ou might choose "Offered as needed" or "Offered occasionally" instead. Courses that cannot be proposed.			
]	Offered each Semester	[] Offered Occasionally [] Offered in Alternate Years, May Term			
]	Offered each Fall Semester	[] Offered in Alternate Years [] Offered Annually			
]	Offered each Spring Semester	[] Offered in Alternate Years, Fall Semester [] Offered Every Third Semester			
]	Offered each May Term	[] Offered in Alternate Years, Spring [] Offered By Arrangement			
]	Offered each Semester and May Term	Semester [] Offered As Needed			
3. I	f your proposal is approved, would you be willin	g for the Mellon Center to use it as an exemplary submission in the online Curriculum Council			
	Handbook?	[] Yes [] No			
	minor, etc.)?	vay by this request (e.g., course is cross-listed, team-taught, required or elective in another major or			
	[] No [] Yes - In what way?				
		Signature of the Head(s) of the Affected Department(s), School(s) or Program(s)			
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π.	if this proposal is for a dateway course, does it	overlap with any existing courses at two:			
	[] No [] Yes - In what way?				
		·			
		Signature of Existing Course Instructor			
LO.	The Curriculum Council assumes that the facul assumption is correct:	ty members of your department have seen and approved of this request. Please sign below if this			
		Signature of Faculty Member Primarily Responsible for This Proposal			
		Signature of the Head of the Department, School or Program			
		Signature of the ricad of the Department, school of Flogram			

Rationale for a Proposed Major in Sociology-Criminology

Todd Fuist, Courtney Irby, Amanda Vicary

The Program:

Criminology is the sociological study of crime and the criminal-legal system. The goal of this proposal is to create an interdisciplinary major in Sociology-Criminology, housed within Sociology, but drawing on existing courses in a variety of programs. A Sociology-Criminology major would be a boon to Illinois Wesleyan University in a variety of ways. Dating back to evidence in the Gray's data and suggestions by PETF, as well as supported anecdotally by the Admissions Office, there is significant interest among prospective students. Additionally, the quick growth of the criminology minor indicates demand on campus. The major represents a desirable and career-oriented field which could aid in attracting and retaining students. Criminology both analyzes important current events in ways that students are compelled by while also providing direct job relevance for a variety of professional trajectories including law, policing, and research. Additionally, the Sociology-Criminology major further promotes the University's mission of social justice by providing a framework for students to learn about strategies for combating inequity in some of the foundational institutions of our society. Ultimately, this major is designed to (1) help IWU remain competitive by providing a course of study that many students express interest in, (2) deliver a uniquely thorough and rigorous experience, grounded in sociology but drawing on our interdisciplinary strengths, that will provide students with a broad skillset, and (c) be deliverable with current and planned staffing.

Peer and Aspirant Institutions:

Of our peer and aspirant institutions, the majority do not currently have a program in criminology. The exception is Carleton which has an Institute of Criminology and Criminal Justice and Kenyon which has an interdisciplinary Legal Studies concentration. Many of these institutions, such as Augustana, Knox, and DePauw, offer a few criminology-related courses housed in a sociology program, but do not collect them into a formal major. In contrast, there are several other nearby Illinois colleges that offer degrees in criminal justice, such as Eureka, Millikin, and ISU. Criminal justice, however, tends to be a pre-professional program for people entering law-enforcement and corrections, while criminology is a sociological specialization which broadly studies aspects of the criminal-legal system from an empirical perspective. Our proposal to have a joint Sociology-Criminology major uniquely situates us within our peer and aspirant institutions as well as other regional universities. First, the sociological foundation of the major offers a rigorous course of study that examines patterns of crime in society, mechanisms of social control, and the divergent experiences of people within the criminal-legal system. Towards this end, students will be required to take core sociological courses related to theory and methods, as well as substantive courses on topics that intersect with the criminal-legal system. Second, unlike the pre-professional focus on criminal justice programs or the specific focus of a sociological degree, the sociology-criminology major is designed to take advantage of the liberal arts experience by integrating the insights of a variety of disciplinary understandings of crime, justice, and law. These qualities will make IWU's program distinctive by social scientifically and humanistically considering courts and intuitions, inequalities and identities, and laws and values.

Student Interest and Need:

The proposed Sociology-Criminology major programmatically emerged because of the immediate interest in the Criminology minor. In just *one semester* on the books, the Criminology minor had twelve students as of Census Day in Spring 2023, with more students declaring and expressing an interest in the minor since then, bringing us to eighteen students in Fall 2023. This already puts the program in the top minors on campus. In addition to this, UQ data for criminology and the testimony of the Admissions Office indicate that the Sociology-Criminology major can help recruit new students. The Admissions Office has notified us that prospective students often inquire about the ability to study criminology and anecdotally have suggested that students have lost interest in IWU when they find out they cannot major in this field of study here. In fact, a student tour guide informed us that recently a prospective student canceled the rest of their remaining visit after learning that they could not pursue any major in criminology.

Expanding our criminology offerings aligns with the broader mission of the Sociology program, which is to provide students with a broad and actionable education, applicable to a variety of career paths, that includes research, writing, and critical thinking skills. Our program seeks to train students interested in understanding social dynamics to conduct their own research, advocate for social justice, and address our society's most pressing problems. We support our students on this path to becoming informed, well-rounded, and effective members of our society by providing them with a rigorous curriculum where they can see themselves and their future life trajectories represented. As discussed, the criminal-legal system is one of the most important sites in our society in which (a) social inequities play out and (b) future leaders with a knowledge of empirical data and theoretical perspectives will play a crucial role. We thus see the major as a path to provide our students who are interested in any of the many careers which may connect with the criminal-legal system a critical and informed perspective on the issues that they will have to confront when interacting with this institution.

In addition to serving a variety of programs, the Sociology-Criminology major will help to prepare our students for the challenges of the contemporary job market. General public demand for the skills and insights uniquely offered by the broader field of sociology is strong and rising, matching pace with larger job market growth. Jobs in criminal justice, in particular, are expected to grow faster than the overall job market, and we thus ignore this growing industry to our students' detriment. In addition to providing students with the credentials to enter jobs within the criminal justice system, we note that a *strength* of our criminological training at IWU is its strong foundation in empirical research and focus on contemporary issues including diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Sociology is a comprehensive social science which offers students valuable preparation in research methods and data analysis, in-demand skills which are critical for careers in a variety of fields including those in criminal justice. Additionally, the connection of criminology courses to broader offerings in sociology on diversity and inequality help to prepare our students not just to take jobs in criminal justice, but also to approach their future careers with a critical and transformative lens that will allow them to be future leaders on these issues of fundamental importance to our society. Further, the interdisciplinary offerings of the major will allow students to differentiate themselves for the job market or graduate school with training in fields as diverse as philosophy, business, and chemistry, something many similar programs do not provide.

Further, the substantive area of criminology reflects the University's mission of social justice, as well as represents a demand among our students for courses that can help educate them on issues of DEI. As the Black Lives Matter movement of the last decade has shown, the criminal-legal system remains one of the key sites of inequity in our society, and a commitment to social justice necessitates helping students to understand the concerns activists have regarding this institution. Dovetailing with this, student demand for courses on inequity within the criminal justice system are high, and such courses thus assist with attracting, retaining, and supporting a diverse student population. Research has found that first generation students and students of color, who often see themselves reflected in sociological course offerings, are particularly attracted to programs that can help them make sense of their own experiences and, thus, critical criminology is a boon for a liberal arts school that seeks to (a) attract and retain a diverse student population while also (b) preparing those students for a social world where issues of justice and inclusion are increasingly central.

Thus, as part of our ongoing effort to (a) attract new students at a time of declining enrollments, and (b) retain the students we have, we see a Sociology-Criminology major as excellent investment for generating innovative curricular work at IWU. Simply put, given the interest in these topics and careers among young people, we see it as fundamental to stay ahead of the curve as much as possible by developing cutting edge offerings within criminology.

Staffing, Courses, and Resources:

The Sociology-Criminology major builds upon existing curricular offerings in Sociology and courses previously identified for the Criminology minor. It makes available a few new existing courses and includes one new course proposal (SOC 280: Deviance). Most of the core requirements in the proposed major are currently housed in the Sociology program and are part of regular offerings with no reasons to anticipate a change. There are two exceptions. One is a data analysis requirement: either PSYC 227, ECON 227, or ENST 200. All these courses are regular offerings on campus and are anticipated to remain so. The second course in question is PSYC 359. As part of Dr. Vicary's move to the School of Business and Economics, she has arranged to be able to continue to teach this course on a regular basis to continue to support this major. Additionally, Sociology is in the midst of two candidate searches. One is a tenure track search intended to broadly support the Sociology program, including by ideally offering courses in Race and Racism. The second is a teaching track position search for a criminologist who could also teach core sociology courses. These two hires will offer added support to Drs. Fuist and Irby, who already teach the listed sociology courses in the proposed major. As designed, the major is thus reliant on existing and planning staffing. The impacted programs, including the School of Business and Economics, Political Science, Environmental Studies, Psychology, Philosophy, Chemistry, and English have all provided written support for the inclusion of their classes, indicated commitment to regular offerings, and noted a willingness to reserving seats in courses for Sociology-Criminology majors.

In addition to no anticipated need for more faculty, there is no expected need for additional space, equipment, or supplies. Regarding resources, because criminology is an offshoot of disciplines we have (sociology in particular, as well as psychology), our existing library

resources should be more than adequate for the minor. We already have access, for example, to several resource collections that deal with related fields, as well as access to the criminal justice article collection specifically, giving us current access to the top journals in the field. Thus, we anticipate being able to deliver this major with existing and planned staffing, space, and resources.

Criminology Catalog Language

Changes in RED

SOCIOLOGY

Fuist, Irby, Staros

Sociology is the study of society. Using sophisticated research methods, we study groups, institutions, beliefs, and experiences to understand how societies work. Some of the topics we're interested in include race, gender, crime, sexuality, families, youth, and politics. Students are often attracted to sociology because of a passion for social justice, a desire to understand different groups or cultures, or a need to understand organizations or institutions.

Students may declare a major in sociology as late as the spring semester of their junior year, although special interests and needs may be accommodated through the advising process. To broaden their educational opportunities, students are encouraged to develop a minor field, to study abroad, or to participate in an internship.

Sociologists are social scientists who learn a variety of research methods to gather and analyze data about society. Sociology students learn about culture, diversity, inequality, and justice, preparing them to navigate a diverse society. Classes on specific topics, such as crime, the media, and the family, also provide students with valuable knowledge about important topics in society. Additionally, critical thinking, effective communication, and writing skills are forefront in the discipline, and these skills are highly sought after by employers in diverse fields. Through internships, an important part of our program, our majors receive practical work experience and insight leading to numerous career choices, while earning college credit.

Major Sequence in Sociology:

A minimum of ten courses in sociology to include:

- 1) Sociology 225, 290, 325*, and 490***; and
- 2) Six additional course units, at least three at the 300-level.

Sociology majors must earn at least a C- in SOC 225 (methods) and SOC 325 (advanced methods) to demonstrate proficiency in the skills needed to complete independent sociological research and register for SOC 490 (senior seminar).

*Sociology majors, in consultation with their advisor, may elect to take a non-sociology course that includes the development of significant social scientific research skills (e.g., GIS, statistics in social science fields, an independent study with this work as its primary focus) in place of the advanced sociological research method requirement for the major. Consultation with and approval from the Department Chair is required.

***The prerequisite for registering for SOC 490 is earning at least a C- in both SOC 225 and SOC 325 (or its approved equivalent), as approved by the Department Chair. Majors must take SOC 225 prior to SOC 325, and both prior to SOC 490.

Minor Sequence in Sociology:

A minimum of six courses in sociology to include:

- 1) SOC 225, and 290; and
- 2) four additional courses, at least two at the 300-level.

Pre-Professional Opportunities

Sociology offers a good foundation for graduate and professional degrees and for careers in social service, criminal justice, and community organizations. Working closely with their faculty advisor, students develop a course of study, including related minors, which best fits their interests and aspirations.

To support career goals in the following areas, sociology majors/minors can take:

- 1) Law and Criminal Justice: Criminology (SOC 328), Social Problems (SOC 201), Youth Subcultures (SOC 333), and Race and Racism (SOC 230).
- 2) Social Justice/Advocacy: Race and Racism (SOC 230), Sex and Gender in Society (SOC 222), Intersectionality (SOC 345), Sociology of Sexualities (SOC 380), Social Movements and Politics in the US (SOC 340), and Environmental Sociology (SOC 367).
- 3) Marketing and Organizational Research: Race and Racism (SOC 230), Sex and Gender in Society (SOC 222), Media and Popular Culture (SOC 250), Youth Subcultures (SOC 333), and additional methodologies courses (e.g. SOC 2/370 Field Work Experience and SOC 325 Advanced Research Methods).
- 4) Social Work/Not for Profit: The Profession of Social Work (SOC 240), Social Welfare and Human Services (SOC 362), Social Problem (SOC 201, Action Research Seminar (SOC 395), Grant Writing (SOC 398), Marriage and Family (SOC 311), and Sociology of the Life Course (SOC 260).
- 5) Student Affairs: Race and Racism (SOC 230), Sex and Gender in Society (SOC 222), Sociology of the Life Course (SOC 260), Youth Subcultures (SOC 333), Social Movements and Politics in the US (SOC 340), Intersectionality (SOC 345), and Sociology of Sexualities (SOC 380).

For additional information, consult the Sociology program's web page at www.iwu.edu/sociology.

Minor in Criminology

Fuist, Irby, Perera. Vicary

Criminology is the social scientific study of crime and the criminal justice system. As a field, criminology examines a broad array of issues related to crime and criminal justice, including but not limited to policing, crime rates, criminal organizations, and the social construction of crime and deviance. The study of criminology at IWU both gives students a strong sociological framework for understanding crime and criminal justice, while offering unique interdisciplinary options for students to engage with other social sciences as well as the natural sciences and humanities. The program focuses on developing knowledge in students about the workings of the criminal justice system, an understanding of inequality with regard to the law, and the skills needed to study crime. Studying criminology is useful for students interested in a future working in criminal justice, advocacy, law, or research to complement their primary major with a focus on knowledge and skills related to crime. The course selection is designed to advance the University's mission of social justice by preparing students to confront serious challenges relating to inequality within the criminal justice system in our society, while also helping students to become informed citizens and providing a wide array of skills and competencies for diverse career paths.

Students completing a minor in criminology will complete a total of six (6) courses. The core of the minor consists of a series of four (4) courses taken by all students. The four core courses together provide an interdisciplinary foundation on the topic for any student interested in eriminology. Sociology 328 and Psychology 359 provide broad overviews of the field from their respective disciplines. Chemistry 120 and the selected methods class, on the other hand, allow students to practice job relevant, hands on research applicable to a variety of career paths in eriminology. Together, these four courses provide students with a synthesis of theory, empirical research, and methods, to help them both better understand, as well as study, crime and the eriminal justice system.

In addition to the four-course core sequence, students will take two (2) elective courses. These courses have been selected to allow students to round out their criminology minor with classes that focus on their specific areas of interest. Students interested in the legal system, for example, may choose to take Business 349 and a Philosophy class on the law. Conversely, students interested in inequality in the criminal justice system may wish to take some of the listed sociology classes which focus on understanding inequality and diversity within society. Thus, students can complement their major or bolster their preparation for their future career with their selection of criminology electives.

Major Sequence in Sociology-Criminology

- 1) SOC 201: Social Problems
- 2) SOC 225: Research Methods
- 3) PSYC 227 OR ECON 227 OR ENST 200
- 4) SOC 290: History of Social Thought
- 5) PSYC 359: Crime and the Justice System
- 6) SOC 328: Criminology
- 7) SOC 490: Senior Seminar in Sociology

Pick FOUR (4) courses from at least TWO (2) categories, and at least TWO (2) must be at the 300-level:

1) Courts and Institutions:

BUS 349: Seminar in Business: Trial Class

CHEM 120: Forensic Chemistry

PSCI 105: Civil Liberties and Social Justice PSCI/SOC 395: Action Research Seminar

SOC 240: Social Work

SOC 311: Marriage and Families

2) Inequalities and Identities:

PSYC 251: Abnormal Psych

SOC 222: Sex and Gender

SOC 230: Race & Racism

SOC 345: Intersectionality

SOC 380: Sex and Sexualities

3) Laws and Values:

BUS 355: Business Law

ENGL 133: Crime and Punishment

PHIL 105: Rights and Wrongs

PHIL 205: What is Law

PHIL 305: Philosophy of Law

PSCI 303 International Law and Organizations

SOC 280: Deviance

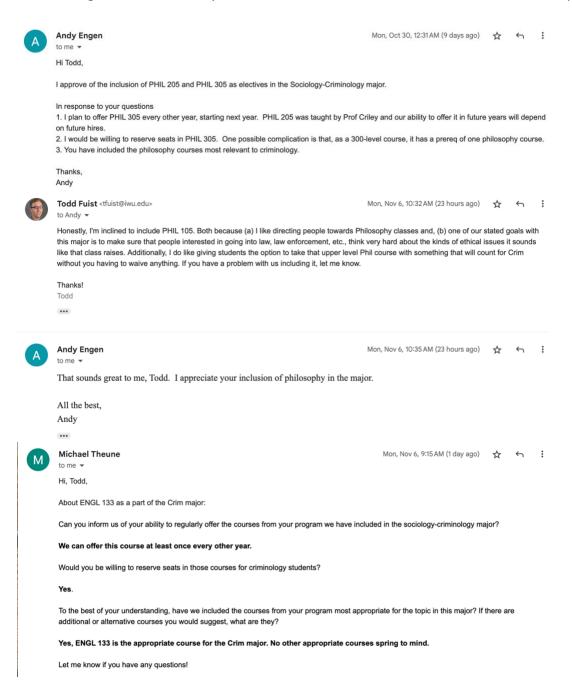
*Special topics and internships may be included with the permission of the chair.

Minor Sequence in Criminology

- 1) SOC 328: Criminology
- 2) PSYC 359: Crime and the Justice System: A Social Psychology Perspective
- 3) CHEM 120: Forensic Chemistry
- 4) A methods class, selecting from the following: SOC 225: Methods of Social Research PSYC 227: Statistics ENST 200: Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- 5) Two (2) courses from the following: BUS 349, PHIL 205, PHIL 305, PSYC 251, PSCI 105; SOC 201, SOC 230, SOC 345, SOC 270/370 (by permission of the chair).

Consent to Include Courses in Sociology-Criminology Major from Chairs and Directors of Affective Programs

Below, please find consent from the heads of Philosophy, Political Science, Environmental Studies, the School of Business, Psychology, Chemistry, and English for approval of their courses. In addition, most of the respondents agreed to reserve seats for Sociology-Criminology majors if such a thing seemed necessary, as well as noted their intentions to offer the class in question.



Wed, Nov 8, 9:24 AM (1 day ago) ☆ ← :

Todd.

Sorry not to get back to you sooner. I've checked with Aaron, and we both see no problem including ENST 200 GIS in the criminology major. GIS is offered every spring, and sometimes 2x in a spring. We would be willing to hold some seats for criminology students.

Please accept this as my endorsement as ES director for this new major.



William Munro

10:34 AM (0 minutes ago) ☆ ← :





Hi Todd:

My apologies for being slow to respond.

Thanks for sharing the description of the new Soc/Crim major with me. With respect to the questions you ask:

- 1. The Political Science department is currently committed to offering the courses you list (PSCI 105 and PSCI 303) regularly. Currently, PSCI 303 is offered on a bi-annual rotation. We have been offering PSCI 105 on an annual basis, but it is staffed by an adjunct. So our ability to offer that course, which is popular, on a regular basis depends somewhat on the goodwill of the administration.
- 2. Since the Soc/Crim major has not yet come on-stream, we would like to defer the question about holding seats. Should that become a matter of concern, we'd be happy to have a conversation
- 3. The Political Science courses you list are certainly appropriate to the Soc/Crim major, and the political science department would be happy to have them listed as electives in the major. I should mention that the Advocacy minor, which is run by Jim Simeone, is independent of the political science department, and may also seek to suggest relevant courses.

Let me know if you have any questions.

William



Ram Mohan

Wed, Nov 1, 1:53 PM ☆ ← :





to Wathsala, me

(1) She will not be offering Forensics in Spring or May 2024.

Further, I'd be interested to collect the following information from you regarding this proposal, so as to best present the major to CC:

1. Can you inform us of your ability to regularly offer the courses from your program we have included in the sociology-criminology major?

Wathsala is agreeable to offer this in the future. The soonest she would offer it would be Spring 2026. After that we could consider offering it every other year at best. We have courses needed for the major but no one to teach---Wathsala would be teaching inorganic chemistry in Spr 2025. It is a required course and yet we can probably only after it every other year. It is a sorry state of affairs.

But her ability to offer Forensics in Spring 2026 depends on how our current two searches go. I hope

Sorry for the late reply. I was waiting for an answer from Wathsala. Please see responses in RED.

1. Would you be willing to reserve seats in those courses for criminology students?

Yes, this should be ok.

1. To the best of your understanding, have we included the courses from your program most appropriate for the topic in this major? If there are additional or alternative courses you would suggest, what are they?



Bryan McCannon

to me 🕶

Todd, I approve of having ECON 227 listed in the new Criminology program.

Bryan

Bryan C. McCannon, Ph.D. Dean, School of Business and Economics Illinois Wesleyan University

Sorry that I didn't follow up sooner.

The courses look fine. Technically, I can't agree for Econ since that is Dave Marvin's department, but we do accept Psych 227 in lieu of Econ 227 for our majors.

We teach the trial class every year.

I'll talk to Rob Kearney about reserving seats.

I'm not sure if you might be interested in Business Law as well. The FTC, which regulates much business behavior, is a civil, not criminal institution, although they do refer cases to other federal agencies like the FBI.

David



Amanda Vicary

Mon, Nov 6, 12:48 PM (21 hours ago)







to me 🔻

Hello,

I don't know how to send a digital signature via email, but I approve!

- 1. We offer Abnormal Psychology every semester, and I have a written document from the Provost's office verifying that I will teaching Psyc 359 at
- 2. I already have reserved seats in Psyc 369 from crim minors and will certainly do the same for majors. Abnormal psychology seats approximately 30 students per semester, so 60 per year, so will also be able to reserve seats (although I doubt it is necessary).
- 3. Yes.