

BS Criminology Graduates of A.Y. 2016-2017 of Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology: A Tracer Study

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Abstract— This study traced the College of Criminology graduates of Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology (NEUST) for the Academic year 2016-2017. The study made use of the descriptive method of research from 147 graduates as respondents. The survey questionnaire and informal interview were used in data gathering.

The findings showed that graduates for the A. Y. 2016-2017 were 61.90% males and 38.10% females. 20.40% of the graduates were employed, and 79.59% were not yet employed as of this date. 53.33% were employed permanently, while 46.67% landed in non-permanent employment. Further, the study revealed that 53.33% were employed even before six months after graduation, while 46.67% were employed after six months from the date of their graduation.

The following conclusions were drawn; the majority of the College of Criminology graduates, NEUST for the Academic year 2016-2017, were not yet employed. That most of the employed graduates landed to a secured, permanent, and related employment of their chosen field. That most employed graduates experienced their first job immediately after graduation.

It was recommended that the college should conduct more career orientation seminars to broaden their ideas on related agencies that require their acquired skill. As well as in determining the length of time of their employment from their graduation, a longer time is recommended for they will be taking their board exam, and it takes five to six months after graduation.

Keyword: *Criminology, Tracer Study.*

I. INTRODUCTION

"Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world," an inspiring quote from Nelson Mandela. (Future Africa at the University of Pretoria)

Everybody plays a vital role in building our future, especially our youth of today, as Dr. Jose P. Rizal quoted, "Ang Kabataan ang pag asa ng bayan." (Dep.ed.gov.ph)

To achieve this, we have to educate our young men and women.

Education is designed to guide them in learning a culture, molding their behavior in adulthood, and directing them toward their eventual role in society. As societies grow more complicated, however, the quantity of knowledge passed on from one generation to the next becomes more than anyone can know.

Hence, there must evolve more selective and efficient means. Thus, the outcome is the formal education-the school and the specialist called the teacher. (Britannica, 2010)

With this, education from primary to secondary has paved its way to higher education, and it continues to prosper from around the world. Varieties of discipline were offered by different institutions; from among this is the study of criminology. Criminology is the scientific study of the non-legal aspects of crime and delinquency, including its causes, correction, and prevention, from such diverse disciplines as anthropology, biology, psychology and psychiatry, economics, sociology, and statistics. (Britannica, 2010)

The Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology (NEUST) offered its first batch of Bachelor of Science in Criminology for the Academic Year 2008. The graduates of this university often attained a remarkable performance in the board examinations for Criminologist Licensure Examinations. They consistently performed beyond expectations, with their passing percentage above the national passing rate, on the opportunities; Different law enforcement agencies can employ criminology graduates.

Following the graduates' track may help evaluate the employability of the graduates of criminology and assess whether they landed in a field where they can apply their learned competencies. Hence, tracer studies were conducted.

A tracer study or graduate survey is a survey of graduates from education institutions, which takes place some-time after graduation or the end of the training. The subjects of a tracer study can be manifold, but common topics include questions on study progress, the transition to

work, work entrance, job career, use of learned competencies, current occupation and bonds to the education institution. (Schomburg, H. 2016)

University Graduate Tracer Studies (GTS) is now commonly becoming a recognizable practice worldwide. Graduate tracer studies involve identification and follow-up of graduates from higher education institutions worldwide spurred by the need to give careful consideration to how graduates view their experiences they underwent during their degree study and their transition to the job market. (Wahome and Badiru, 2016)

➤ *Statement of the Problem*

This study was used to trace the graduates of Bachelor of Science in Criminology of Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology for Academic Year 2016–2017.

II. METHODOLOGY

The descriptive method of research was used in the study. It aims to accurately and systematically describe a population, situation or phenomenon. It can answer what, where, when and how questions, but not why questions. It is also a research design that can use a wide variety of research methods to investigate one or more variables. (McCombes, 2019)

The study focused on finding the present condition of the graduates of the College of Criminology, NEUST, specifically on their employability.

The respondents were 91 males and 56 females for a total of 147 graduates of the College of Criminology, NEUST for the Academic Year 2016-2017.

Survey questionnaire in determining the necessary data needed from the respondents was used. Such a data-gathering tool was sourced from the university's standard survey questionnaire for tracer studies like this.

Respondents were identified; survey questionnaire was administered through informal interviews and electronic sources for the data gathering procedure. The data gathered were tabulated and tallied using frequency and percentage. The results were analyzed and interpreted.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This area discussed the results on demographic profile of the B. S. Criminology Graduates for A.Y. 2016–2017.

TABLE I. SEX

Sex		
	<i>f</i>	%
Male	91	61.90
Female	56	38.10
Total	147	100

Table 1 shows that batch 2016-2017 composed of 61.90% males and 38.10% females. The study revealed that males dominated criminology graduates for the academic year 2016-2017. Still, the number of female graduates may imply that females already appreciate this course, and it is evidenced by more than half of the number of male graduates.

TABLE II. EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Employment Status						
	Male		Female		Total	
	<i>f</i>	%	<i>f</i>	%	<i>f</i>	%
Employed	20	21.91	10	17.86	30	20.41
Unemployed	71	78.09	46	82.14	117	79.59
Total	91	100	56	100	147	100

As to the employment status, Table II revealed that 20.40% of the graduates were employed, and 79.59% were not yet employed as to this date. It implies that only a few graduates were employed and a significant portion was still unemployed. There were more males employed than females; it can be seen from the table that males got 21.91% while females got 17.86%. Most of the employed were males, but it can also be gleaned from the table that the number of females employed is half the number of males employed. It simply means that women were also into finding their way to employment.

TABLE III. EMPLOYMENT PERMANENCY

Employment Permanency						
	Male		Female		Total	
	<i>f</i>	%	<i>f</i>	%	<i>f</i>	%
Permanent	15	75	1	10	16	53.33
Non-permanent	5	25	9	90	14	46.67
Total	20	100	10	100	30	100

As to the permanency of employment, 53.33% were employed permanently while 46.67% landed in non-permanent jobs. It can be seen that males got the highest number of employed permanently while females got the highest rate for non-permanent employment.

This means that males consider the security of tenure when applying for a job. Simultaneously, females do not consider tenure security; it can be interpreted that females intend to land a job even for a brief period while waiting for a more incredible opportunity. This can be supported by employment, where the males got the highest rate on the related job while females garnered the highest rate for unrelated positions.

TABLE IV. TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT

Type of Employment						
	Male		Female		Total	
	<i>f</i>	%	<i>f</i>	%	<i>f</i>	%
Related	16	80	2	20	18	60
Unrelated	4	20	8	80	12	40
Total	20	100	10	100	30	100

TABLE V. LENGTH OF TIME BETWEEN GRADUATION AND FIRST EMPLOYMENT

Length of Time between Graduation and First Employment						
	Male		Female		Total	
	<i>f</i>	%	<i>f</i>	%	<i>f</i>	%
Before six months	11	55	5	50	16	53.33
More than six months	9	45	5	50	14	46.67
Total	20	100	10	100	30	100

As to the length of time between graduation and first employment, 53.33% were employed even before six months after graduation, while 46.67% were employed after six months from the date of their graduation. It can be seen from the table that there is no significant difference between the graduates who got employed before six months and after six months. Although the graduates who got employed before six months earned the highest rate, the difference is not that far. It only implies that the College of Criminology graduates of NEUST is employable, permanently in their chosen related field.

IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, the following conclusions were drawn; the majority of the College of Criminology graduates, NEUST for the Academic year 2016-2017, were not yet employed. Majority of the employed graduates landed a secured, permanent, and related employment of their chosen field.

That in determining the length of time of their employment from their graduation, a longer time is recommended before the conduct of a tracer study because criminology is a board course meaning after graduation, graduates need to take the Criminology Licensure Examination (CLE), and it ranges from five to six months after graduation. Hence, the college should conduct more career orientation seminars for the graduates to broaden their ideas on related agencies that require their acquired skills.

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