

[[A]]Economics Department Assessment Plan

Latest revision: April 14, 2000

Plan approved by CAASP: April 19, 2000

Mission

Deeply committed to academic excellence, the Economics Department is dedicated to a curriculum that has a heavy emphasis on theory, quantitative methods, and applied electives. The curriculum is designed to provide students with both the fundamental background and the specialized knowledge needed for analyzing and understanding major economic issues and achieving their goals, such as obtaining positions in business and government and gaining admission to graduate programs in economics, business, law, and related fields.

Educational Outcomes

The educational outcomes apply to all graduates

1. During the course of their study for a B. A. degree in economics, students will acquire the requisite theoretical and analytical knowledge and understanding that will enable them to analyze real world economic problems and present their results to decision makers in industry and government.
2. Students receiving a B.A. degree in economics will fare well (a) in the job market or (b) in gaining entry to graduate schools in economics, business, law, public policy, and related fields.

Assessment Methods

1. After a student has completed the required 33 credit hours in economics, he/she will be asked to take a departmental test developed by the Economics Department. The test will assess the student's theoretical and analytical knowledge in three areas: macroeconomics, microeconomics, and quantitative methods.
2. Once a year graduates will be surveyed to track their career advancement. This survey will elicit information on both job offers and offers of admission to graduate schools. In addition, once every three years alumni will be surveyed to assess their satisfaction with our program.

Goals

1. In each area, graduating students as a group are expected to score above 70 percent.
2. More than 80% of graduates feel adequately prepared for current employment
At least 50% of students who apply to graduate programs are accepted.

Feedback

After at least three years of data collection, assuming that we compile an adequate sample size, then the department will consider the necessary programmatic changes.

Budget

We expect postage and copying costs for surveys to be negligible.

[[B]]Departmental Exam

A copy of the Departmental Exam is on file in the office of the Director of Academic Assessment

[[C]]Surveys

