

Undergraduate Curricular Program Assessment Plan

Program Name: BA-Economics

Applicable Major(s)/Degree(s): Bachelor of Arts in Economics (additional program learning outcomes are presented on the Business and Economics Core assessment plan)

Date: January 22, 2018; Revised March 13, 2018.

Section 1: Program Learning Outcomes and Assessment Methods

This table summarizes all program learning outcomes and related details for each outcome. Program learning outcomes identify what students will know and do as a result of completing the program.

| Program Learning Outcome(s) | Campus SLO Alignment | Assessment Year | Assessment Methods/Measures | Performance Indicators |
|---|-----------------------------|------------------------|---|--|
| Goal 2: Acquire quantitative analysis skills that can be used in economic analysis. | | | | |
| LO2B: Quantitatively analyze economic relationships. | #3 | 2015/17/20 | Three measures are used: a) assigned problems for which satisfactory performance is 70% or better, b) individual-and-group project paper for which satisfactory performance is 6 or better on a 10-point scale, and c) a specific set of questions included on a final exam for which satisfactory performance is 60% or better. The third tool is also used for assessing LO5C. | For each measure, the percentage of students achieving satisfactory performance: 70%. |
| Goal 5: Demonstrate knowledge of theories, models, and tools relevant to economics. | | | | |
| LO5A: Demonstrate knowledge of major theoretical economic concepts. | #1 | 2016/17/20 | Course-embedded pre-test and post-test comparison of performance on MCQ questions related to knowledge of major theoretical concepts in Economics. Scoring: <60% (Does Not Meet Expectations); 60-70% (Meet Expectations); >70% (Exceed Expectations) | Percentage of students rated "Meets Expectations" or higher: 70%. Improvement from pre-test to post-test of at least 20%. |
| LO5B: Apply theoretical, quantitative, and historical perspectives to relevant economic issues. | #1 | 2016/17/20 | Students are given an open-ended take home exam that requires them to write one-page long, evidence based short essay on the meaning, relevance, history, core problems and potential solution of an economic development problem facing developing countries. Assessed on a scale of 1-4 on five criteria: Explanation, Evidence, Influence, Position, and Conclusions and Outcomes. | Percentage of students rated 3 or 4: 70%. |

| | | | | |
|---|----|------------|--|---|
| LO5C: Critique and/or formulate policy options. | #1 | 2015/17/20 | 16 exam questions to assess the ability to quantify economic relationships, interpret the results, and provide policy options implied by the results. While 10 of the 16 questions required students specifying and quantifying economic relationships, 6 essay questions required students to provide a critique or formulate policy options based on the quantified results. Satisfactory performance is defined as answering 60% of all questions correctly, plus answering 4 out of the 6 policy relevant questions correctly (exceeds requirements if 5 or more out of 6 policy relevant questions correct) | Percentage of students meeting satisfactory performance: 70%. |
|---|----|------------|--|---|

Section 2: Program Assessment Data Analysis and Results

In this section, information is provided regarding who conducts the program’s assessment, who compiles assessment data, who reviews assessment results, and general ways the program uses assessment results to improve teaching and learning. Information includes ways in which students and individuals/groups outside of the program are involved in the program’s assessment process, if applicable.

Instructors of designated courses administer the pre-test and post-test (for courses using pre/post testing). Post-test is typically administered as part of the final exam. For courses not using the pre-post format, data are collected using the assessment instrument by faculty teaching those courses. Course instructors deliver all pre/post-tests to the lead faculty member. Participating faculty then meet to discuss and evaluate the assessment results and share findings at a department meeting. The lead faculty member delivers the completed "LSBE Undergraduate Learning Assessment Form" to the LSBE Undergraduate Committee, which includes assessment results, interpretations, and recommendations for program improvement. The LSBE Undergraduate Committee reviews, makes additional recommendations to participating faculty, and sends record to the LSBE Assessment Committee. The LSBE Assessment Committee compiles all assessment data for degree programs within the college and presents a summary at the annual LSBE Assurance of Learning (AoL) Retreat. The lead faculty member collects and provides data for the “closing-the-loop” report. Students are involved as members of the LSBE Undergraduate Committee and LSBE Senate (the Senate participates in the AoL Retreat).

Section 3: Alignment of Courses to Program Learning Outcomes

This table lists all courses taught for the program and shows the alignment with the program learning outcomes.

- Courses are listed in order by course level, beginning with 1xxx courses.
- * denotes required courses.
- Course-to-program learning outcome alignment is noted as: I = Introduced, R = Reinforced, E = Emphasized
- Courses used as part of Program Assessment are noted by: P = Program Assessment Reporting.

| Course # | Course Title | LO2B | LO5A | LO5B | LO5C |
|-----------------|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| ECON 1022 | Principles of Macroeconomics | | I | I | |
| ECON 1023 | Principles of Microeconomics | | I | I | |
| ECON 2030 | Applied Statistics for Business and Economics | I | R | R | |
| ECON 3022 * | Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory | | R | R | R, P |
| ECON 3023 * | Intermediate Microeconomics | | R, P | R | |
| ECON 3030 * | Econometrics I | E, P | R | R | |
| ECON 3150 * | Development Economics‡ | | R | R, P | R |
| ECON 3311 | Money and Banking | | R | R | |
| ECON 3314 | Sports Economics | | R | R | |
| ECON 3402 | Global Economic Issues | | R | R | R |
| ECON 3721 | Natural Resource and Energy Economics | R | R | R | R |
| ECON 3910 | The Economics of Health Care | | | | |
| ECON 4590 | Time Series Forecasting and Macroeconomic Policy | E | R | R | |
| ECON 4613 | Oligopoly and Monopoly | | R | R | R |

‡Students may substitute ECON 3402 for this course.