



DEPARTMENTAL PLAN FOR ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING
2005-2006 ACADEMIC YEAR

Department: Economics

Program: Undergraduate Majors (BBA Banking & Financial Economics; BBA Business Economics; BA Economics)

Mission Statement

The Economics Department offers undergraduate curricula that reflect the current state of knowledge and skills used by professional economists, which fosters an understanding of the workings of modern economies at all levels. We prepare students for careers in business, banking or government, or for further study in economics. Our graduates will possess skills in the use of quantitative methods to solve economic problems and analyze issues and they will be able to effectively communicate their solutions both orally and in writing.

Student Learning Goals

Student Learning Goal 1: Students will understand key economic concepts and institutions and be able to use this knowledge to explain economic events, solve problems, and recommend and defend economic policies.

Objective 1.1: Students acquire knowledge of economic concepts and institutions.

Objective 1.2: Students solve problems using economics.

Objective 1.3: Students assess economic policies.

Objective 1.4: Students develop an understanding of the global economy.

Student Learning Goal 2: Students develop skills in using quantitative methods to solve economic problems and analyze economic issues.

Objective 2.1: Students retrieve, interpret, and manipulate economic data.

Objective 2.2: Students conduct research projects that involve solving problems that use economic data.

Student Learning Goal 3: Students will be able to communicate clearly both orally and in writing.

Objective 3.1: Students present the results of their economic studies in writing.

Objective 3.2: Students orally present the results of their economic studies.


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Student Learning Objectives	Educational Experiences	Assessment Methods	Timeline	Responsibilities	Use of Results and Process for Documentation & Decision-Making
1.1 Students acquire knowledge of economic concepts and institutions	Econ 201 Econ 202 Econ 303 Various other upper level courses	Course examinations Data collected will include a compilation of scores on various questions linked to course learning objectives	Data will be collected each semester (excluding summer)	All instructors will collect data and present to Dr. Biederman All instructors will collect data and present to Dr. O'Neill All instructors will collect data and present to Dr. Goenner Economics Faculty	Results will be communicated in writing to the Department Chair or Department Assessment Coordinator and compiled for Economics Faculty discussion each year All reports will be maintained in the Department files Summaries of assessment activities and any decisions made for improvement of courses will be included in the Departmental Annual Report



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Student Learning Objectives	Educational Experiences	Assessment Methods	Timeline	Responsibilities	Use of Results and Process for Documentation & Decision-Making
1.2 Students solve problems using economics	Econ 308 Econ 309 Various other upper level courses	Course examinations Data collected will include a compilation of scores on various questions linked to course learning objectives and/or a narrative	Data will be collected each semester in which the course is offered	Dr. O'Neill Drs. Bagheri, Biederman, or Goenner Economics Faculty	Results will be communicated in writing to the Department Chair or Department Assessment Coordinator and compiled for Economics Faculty discussion each year All reports will be maintained in the Department files Summaries of assessment activities and any decisions made for improvement of courses will be included in the Departmental Annual Report



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1.3 Students assess economic policies	Econ 202	Course examinations	Data will be collected each semester (excluding summer)	All instructors will collect data and present to Dr. O'Neill	Results will be communicated in writing to the Department Chair or Department Assessment Coordinator and compiled for Economics Faculty discussion each year All reports will be maintained in the Department files Summaries of assessment activities and any decisions made for improvement of courses will be included in the Departmental Annual Report
	Econ 303	Data collected will include a compilation of scores on various questions linked to course learning objectives and/or a narrative		All instructors will collect data and present to Dr. Goenner	
	Econ 309			Drs. Bagheri, Biederman, or Goenner	
	Various other upper level courses			Economics Faculty	



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1.4 Students develop an understanding of the global economy	Econ 338	Course examinations	Data will be collected each semester in which the course is offered	Dr. da Silva	Results will be communicated in writing to the Department Chair or Department Assessment Coordinator and compiled for Economics Faculty discussion each year
	Econ 380	Data collected will include a compilation of scores on various questions linked to course learning objectives and/or a narrative		Dr. Bagheri	
	Econ 438			Dr. da Silva	
	Various other upper level courses			Economics Faculty Consultant	
		Focus group	Triennial		All reports will be maintained in the Department files
		Senior survey	Biennial	Department Chair	Summaries of assessment activities and any decisions made for improvement of courses will be included in the Departmental Annual Report



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Student Learning Goal 2: Students develop skills in using quantitative methods to solve economic problems and analyze economic issues.

Student Learning Objectives	Educational Experiences	Assessment Methods	Timeline	Responsibilities	Use of Results and Process for Documentation & Decision-Making
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2.1 Students retrieve, interpret, and manipulate economic data	Econ 210	Course examinations and projects	Data will be collected each semester in which the course is offered	All instructors will collect data and present to Dr. Blackwell	Results will be communicated in writing to the Department Chair or Department Assessment Coordinator and compiled for Economics Faculty discussion each year
	Econ 305	Data collected will include a compilation of scores on various questions linked to course learning objectives and/or a narrative		Dr. Flynn	
	Econ 410			Dr. Yao	
	Econ 411			Dr. Yao	
	Various other upper level courses			Economics Faculty	
		Focus group	Triennial	Consultant	All reports will be maintained in the Department files
		Senior survey	Biennial	Department Chair	Summaries of assessment activities and any decisions made for improvement of courses will be included in the Departmental Annual Report



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2.2 Students conduct research projects that involve solving problems that use economic data	Econ 410 Econ 411 Various other upper level courses	Course projects Narrative Focus group Senior survey	Data will be collected each semester in which the course is offered Triennial Biennial	Dr. Yao Dr. Yao Economics Faculty Consultant Department Chair	Results will be communicated in writing to the Department Chair or Department Assessment Coordinator and compiled for Economics Faculty discussion each year All reports will be maintained in the Department files Summaries of assessment activities and any decisions made for improvement of courses will be included in the Departmental Annual Report



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Student Learning Goal 3: Students will be able to communicate clearly both orally and in writing.

Student Learning Objectives	Educational Experiences	Assessment Methods	Timeline	Responsibilities	Use of Results and Process for Documentation & Decision-Making
3.1 Students present the results of their economic studies in writing	Econ 305, 324, 330, 341, 405, 414, 416 Various other upper level courses	Course projects A standardized oral presentation assessment instrument will be used and/or a narrative Focus group Senior survey	Data will be collected each semester in which the course is offered Triennial Biennial	All instructors of these courses Economics Faculty Consultant Department Chair	Results will be communicated in writing to the Department Chair or Department Assessment Coordinator and compiled for Economics Faculty discussion each year All reports will be maintained in the Department files Summaries of assessment activities and any decisions made for improvement of courses will be included in the Departmental Annual Report



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Student Learning Goal 3: Students will be able to communicate clearly both orally and in writing.

Student Learning Objectives	Educational Experiences	Assessment Methods	Timeline	Responsibilities	Use of Results and Process for Documentation & Decision-Making
<p>3.2 Students orally present the results of their economic studies</p>	<p>Econ 305, 324, 330, 341, 405, 414</p> <p>Various other upper level courses</p>	<p>Course projects</p> <p>In-class discussions</p> <p>A standardized oral presentation assessment instrument will be used and/or a narrative</p> <p>Focus group</p> <p>Senior survey</p>	<p>Data will be collected each semester in which the course is offered</p> <p>Triennial</p> <p>Biennial</p>	<p>All instructors of these courses</p> <p>Economics Faculty</p> <p>Consultant</p> <p>Department Chair</p>	<p>Results will be communicated in writing to the Department Chair or Department Assessment Coordinator and compiled for Economics Faculty discussion each year</p> <p>All reports will be maintained in the Department files</p> <p>Summaries of assessment activities and any decisions made for improvement of courses will be included in the Departmental Annual Report</p>