Program: **MA ECON Degree** (Fogelman College of Business & Economics) - Spring 2019
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Executive Summary

2018-2019

Summary: For the MA ECON Degree (Masters in Economics), four (4) learning goals including a total of eight (8) individual learning outcomes were assessed in AY 2018-19. The data was collected over a multi-year period of time using primarily written comprehensive exams for measuring students' level of competency across the learning goals and outcomes. For the MA ECON degree the degree goals assessed were in these four broad areas: (1) Acquisition of a strong base in theoretical economic analysis, (2) Acquisition of discipline-specific knowledge, (3) Acquisition of high-level empirical skills, and (4) Ability to communicate economic concepts effectively. Within each of those were two specific and measurable learning outcomes (LOs) that were individually assessed. A rubric of Fair (score=1), Good (score=2), or Exemplary (score=3) was used to assess each student's skills within a given LO. The scores of all students were consolidated and a benchmark of no more than 10% at the fair level (score=1) for a given LO was established for corrective actions.

Results: A broad cross-section of MSIS students enrolled in multiple course sections were assessed in this cycle (Fall 2018/Spring 2019) with one LO falling short of the 10% benchmark: LO4 (22% fair)

Improvements taken: To address the shortfall in LO4 (communication of economic concepts), the MA ECON faculty have increased emphasis on formal activities that help students improve their presentations skills across the program.

OUTCOMES	MEANS OF ASSESSMENT & BENCHMARKS/TASKS	RESULTS	ACTION TAKEN & FOLLOW-UP
LO1: Graduates will acquire a strong base in theoretical analysis. **Outcome Status:** Active	**Course Embedded Assessments –** Over a multi-year period (2013-2019), student skills in the MA ECON program goals/outcomes were assessed using results from written comprehensive exams. Individual students were scored at one of three levels: 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Exemplary The results for all students included in the assessment were consolidated by LO and reviewed by a faculty committee. **Benchmark (and how determined):** The department's goal is that any LO with a Fair (score=1) of 10% or more required corrective action.	**Reporting Cycle:** 2018 - 2019 **Result Type:** Criterion Met A review of results from the assessment process showed that at least 90% of assessed MA-ECON students scored at the Good (2) or Exemplary (3) levels on LO1 and thus met the benchmark.	**Action Taken:** Because the benchmark was met for LO1, no corrective actions were required.
LO2: Graduates acquire discipline-specific knowledge. **Outcome Status:** Active	**Course Embedded Assessments –** Over a multi-year period (2013-2019), student skills in the MA ECON program goals/outcomes were assessed using results from written comprehensive exams. Individual students were scored at one of three levels: 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Exemplary The results for all students included in the assessment were consolidated by LO and reviewed by a faculty committee. **Benchmark (and how determined):**	**Reporting Cycle:** 2018 - 2019 **Result Type:** Criterion Met A review of results from the assessment process showed that at least 90% of assessed MA-ECON students scored at the Good (2) or Exemplary (3) levels on LO2 and thus met the benchmark.	**Action Taken:** Because the benchmark was met for LO2, no corrective actions were required.

	The department's goal is that any LO with a Fair (score=1) of 10% or more required corrective action.		
LO3: Graduates acquire high-level empirical skills. **Outcome Status:** Active	**Course Embedded Assessments –** Over a multi-year period (2013-2019), student skills in the MA ECON program goals/outcomes were assessed using results from written comprehensive exams. Individual students were scored at one of three levels: 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Exemplary The results for all students included in the assessment were consolidated by LO and reviewed by a faculty committee. **Benchmark (and how determined):** The department's goal is that any LO with a Fair (score=1) of 10% or more required corrective action.	**Reporting Cycle:** 2018 - 2019 **Result Type:** Criterion Met A review of results from the assessment process showed that at least 90% of assessed MA-ECON students scored at the Good (2) or Exemplary (3) levels on LO3 and thus met the benchmark.	**Action Taken:** Because the benchmark was met for LO3, no corrective actions were required.
LO4: Graduates will be able to communicate economic concepts effectively. **Outcome Status:** Active	**Course Embedded Assessments –** Over a multi-year period (2013-2019), student skills in the MA ECON program goals/outcomes were assessed using results from written comprehensive exams. Individual students were scored at one of three levels: 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Exemplary The results for all students included	**Reporting Cycle:** 2018 - 2019 **Result Type:** Criterion Not Met A review of results from the assessment process showed that 22% of the assessed MA ECON students scored at the Fair (1) level on presenting results of empirical analysis and their implications. This did not meet the established	**Action Taken:** The 22% Fair exceeded the program's benchmark for that level of performance and thus required attention. To address this need, the MA ECON faculty have increased emphasis across the program on formal activities that help

	in the assessment were consolidated by LO and reviewed by a faculty committee. **Benchmark (and how determined):** The department's goal is that any LO with a Fair (score=1) of 10% or more required corrective action.	benchmark and merited corrective action.	students improve their presentations skills.