

Economics Department Student Learning Outcomes Assessment

Students who graduate from our department will:

- LO 1a: Understand and apply the basic principles of micro and macroeconomics
- LO 1b: Understand and apply the basic principles of management (ONLY BUSE majors)
- LO 2: Understand and utilize graphs, spreadsheets, and/or other basic quantitative techniques employed in the field
- LO 3: Gather relevant information, evaluate it critically and communicate it effectively in written and oral forms
- LO 4: Compare and evaluate contending economic policy debates at the local, national and/or international level

The Economics Department has 4 tools to assess our Student Learning Outcomes. The first three assessments, our post-test, Writing Sample and Quantitative Exercises are formative assessments of our students learning. The Senior Survey provides us with our students' perception of their learning within the department. Each Student Learning Outcome is assessed at least twice using a different method, as delineated in Table 1.

Table 1: Tools Used to Assess Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcome	Post-Test	Writing Sample	Quantitative Exercises	Senior Survey
LO1a	X		X	
LO1b	X		X	
LO2	X		X	X
LO3		X		X
LO4	X	X		

During the 2015-2016 year, the Economics Department assessed our Student Learning Outcomes utilizing the Post-test and the Senior Survey. The Post-Test questions are mapped to each the Performance Criteria for the learning outcomes. The Senior Survey provides the student perspective on their learning. The Economics Department believes that although we may feel that the students have met our learning outcomes, we want to ensure that our students feel the same about their learning.

This academic year we intend to implement the Writing Sample assessment in our Spring WI courses. Moreover, we are collecting the information from our Quantitative Skills courses and our Computer Applications in Economics and Management courses. While the collection of materials for our Quantitative Exercises will take place each semester, it will only be analyzed in odd years (opposite writing assessments). These analyses are more time intensive thus they will occur in opposite years. This cycle is depicted in Table 2 below.

The information that is collected in these assessments is analyzed and disseminated in the Department annual report. During the first department meeting of the Fall semester, it is discussed and the information is utilized in our department goal setting for the year.

Table 2: Assessment Cycle

	Cycle	Next Assessment	Class Assessment Introduced
Post-Test	Odd-Year	2017-18	MGT454
Writing Sample	Even-Year	2016-17	Spring WI Courses
Quantitative Exercises	Odd-Year	2017-18	ECO 221, ECO222, & MGT423
Senior Survey	Every Year	2016-17	MGT454