***STUDENT LEARNING ASSESSMENT PROGRAM***

***SUMMARY FORM AY 2017***

Please complete a separate worksheet for each academic program (major, minor) at each level (undergraduate, graduate) in your department. Worksheets are due to CASA this year by **August 15**. Worksheets should be sent electronically to [Karla Sanders](mailto:cskjs@eiu.edu) and should also be submitted to your college dean. For information about assessment or help with your assessment plans, visit the Assessment webpage at <http://www.eiu.edu/~assess/> or contact Karla Sanders in CASA at 581-6056.

**M.A. in Economics**

**Degree and**

**Program Name:**

# Submitted By:

**Ali** **R. Moshtagh**

**PART ONE**

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| **What are the Learning Objectives?** | **How and When are they Assessed? Committee/Person Responsible?** | **Expectations** | **Results** | **How will results be used? Committee/Person Responsible.** |
| 1. Graduates of the MA program in Economics will be able to think critically and solve problems by applying theory to analyze individual and social issues. | Graduate Forum (non-thesis option). **Content**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and panel of faculty. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | No graduate forums in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate Forum (non-thesis option). **Analysis and Response to Questions**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and panel of faculty. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | No graduate forums in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate Forum (non-thesis option). **Development**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and panel of faculty. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | No graduate forums in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Method**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.7 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |

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|  | Graduate thesis. **Hypotheses**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.6 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Content of Oral Presentation**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.7 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Analysis and Response** **to Questions at Oral Presentation**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.5 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Three students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Theory: Relevance.** Committee/Person responsible: Theory Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.6 (N = 6). No students below 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum and courses. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Theory: Limits.** Committee/Person responsible: Theory Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.3 (N = 4). No students below 2.5.  No students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | This is a lot lower than expected. No changes planned, but we will continue to monitor. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Theory: Application.** Committee/Person responsible: Theory Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.5 (N = 4). No students below 2.5. Two students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Writing: Content.** Committee/Person responsible: Writing Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.08 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Three students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum and courses. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Writing: Development.** Committee/Person responsible: Writing Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 2.67 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. One student rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | This is slightly lower than expected. No changes planned, but we will continue to monitor. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Quantitative: Model.** Committee/Person responsible: Quantitative Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.08 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Research: Justification.** Committee/Person responsible: Research Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.42 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Six students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Research: Hypotheses.** Committee/Person responsible: Research Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.25 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Research: Method.** Committee/Person responsible: Research Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.5 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Six students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Research: Conclusion.** Committee/Person responsible: Research Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.33 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | This is slightly lower than expected. No changes planned, but we will continue to monitor. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Exit interview of MA students. "The graduate program in economics provided me with a solid foundation in economic theory." Committee/Person responsible: Chair and Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Exit interview of MA students. "The graduate program in economics developed my capability to apply economic theory to new situations." Committee/Person responsible: Chair and Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Exit interview of MA students. "The graduate program in economics developed my ability to formulate good research problems." Committee/Person responsible: Chair and Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Exit interview of MA students. "The graduate program contributed to my ability to select and apply appropriate research methods." Committee/Person responsible: Chair and Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Exit survey of MA students. "The graduate program in economics prepared me well for future employment." Committee/Person responsible: Chair and Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Septennial external assessment. Committee/Person responsible: Outside evaluator. (Performed in 2015) | Good quality master’s degree. | Has major (positive) impact on the lives of its graduates. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
| 1. Graduates of the MA program in Economics will be able to formulate salient research questions. | Graduate Forum (non-thesis option). **Content**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and panel of faculty. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | No graduate forums in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate Forum (non-thesis option). **Organization**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and panel of faculty. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | No graduate forums in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum and courses. |
|  | Graduate Forum (non-thesis option). **Development**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and panel of faculty. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | No graduate forums in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Research Justification**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.7 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Research Hypotheses**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.6 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis **Content of Oral Presentation**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.7 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Organization of Oral Presentation**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.6 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Development of Oral Presentation**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.6 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Three students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Research: Justification.** Committee/Person responsible: Research Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.42 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Six students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Research:** **Hypotheses.** Committee/Person responsible: Research Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.25 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Research: Method.** Committee/Person responsible: Research Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.5 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Six students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Research:** **Conclusion.** Committee/Person responsible: Research Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.33 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | This is slightly lower than expected. No changes planned, but we will continue to monitor. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Exit survey of MA students. "The graduate program in economics contributed to my ability to formulate good research problems." Committee/Person responsible: Chair and Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Exit survey of MA students. "The graduate program in economics prepared me well for future employment." Committee/Person responsible: Chair and Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Septennial external assessment. Committee/Person responsible: Outside evaluator. (Performed in 2015) | Good quality master’s degree. | Has major (positive) impact on the lives of its graduates. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
| 1. Graduates of the MA program in Economics will be able to select and apply appropriate research methods. | Graduate Forum (non-thesis option). **Content**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and panel of faculty. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | No graduate forums in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate Forum (non-thesis option). **Organization**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and panel of faculty. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | No graduate forums in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate Forum (non-thesis option). **Development**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and panel of faculty. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | No graduate forums in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum and courses. |
|  | Graduate thesis: **Research Methods**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.7 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Content of Oral Presentation**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.7 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate Thesis. **Organization of Oral Presentation**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.6 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Development of Oral Presentation**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.6 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Three students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Research:** **Method**. Committee/Person responsible: Research Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.5 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Six students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Paper in graduate courses.1 **Quantitative:**  **Model.** Committee/Person responsible: Quantitative Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.08 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed,  Graduate Committee and faculty will revise graduate curriculum and courses. |
|  | Paper in graduate courses.1 **Quantitative: Data.**  Committee/Person responsible: Quantitative Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.25 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed,  Graduate Committee and faculty will revise graduate curriculum and courses. |
|  | Paper in graduate courses.1 **Quantitative: Procedures**  Committee/Person responsible: Quantitative Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.42 (N = 12). One student below 2.5. Five students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed,  Graduate Committee and faculty will revise graduate curriculum and courses. |
|  | Paper in graduate courses.1 **Quantitative: Tests.** Committee/Person responsible: Quantitative Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.17 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Three students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed,  Graduate Committee and faculty will revise graduate curriculum and courses. |
|  | Exit interview of MA students. "The graduate program in economics contributed to my ability to select and apply appropriate research methods." Committee/Person responsible: Chair and Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise graduate curriculum. |
|  | Exit survey of MA students. "The graduate program in economics prepared me well for future employment." Committee/Person responsible: Chair and Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Septennial external assessment. Committee/Person responsible: Outside evaluator. (Performed in 2015) | Good quality master’s degree. | Has major (positive) impact on the lives of its graduates. | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise graduate curriculum. |
| 1. Graduates of the MA program in Economics will be able to communicate effectively. | Graduate Forum (non-thesis option). **Content**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and panel of faculty. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | No graduate forums in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate Forum (non-thesis option). **Focus**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and panel of faculty. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | No graduate forums in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate Forum (non-thesis option). **Organization**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and panel of faculty. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | No graduate forums in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate Forum (non-thesis option). **Development**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and panel of faculty. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | No graduate forums in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate Forum (non-thesis option). **Oral Effectiveness**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and panel of faculty. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | No graduate forums in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate Forum (non-thesis option). **Analysis and Response to Questions**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Advisor and panel of faculty. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | No graduate forums in AY2017. | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate the curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Content of Oral Presentation**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.7 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Focus of Oral Presentation**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.7 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Five students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | | Graduate thesis. **Organization of Oral Presentation**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.6 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Development of Oral Presentation**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.6 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Three students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Effectiveness of Oral Presentation**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.4 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Two students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will the revise graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Analysis and Response to Questions at Oral Presentation**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.5 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Three students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Content**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.6 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Three students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Focus**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.6 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Three students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Organization**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.6 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Development**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.7 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Three students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Style**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.4 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Three students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Graduate thesis. **Mechanics**. Committee/Person responsible: Graduate Coordinator and Thesis Committee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.3 (N = 6). No students under 2.5. Two students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |  | Competent |  | Graduate Committee and faculty will revise graduate curriculum and courses. |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Writing: Content.** Committee/Person responsible: Writing Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.08 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Three students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |  |  |  |  |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Writing: Focus.** Committee/Person responsible: Writing Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.08 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |  |  |  |  |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Writing: Organization.** Committee/Person responsible: Writing Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 3.25 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. Four students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |  |  |  |  |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Writing: Development.** Committee/Person responsible: Writing Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 2.67 (N = 12). No student below 2.5. One student rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | This is slightly lower than expected. No changes planned, but we will continue to monitor. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |  |  |  |  |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Writing: Style.** Committee/Person responsible: Writing Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 2.67 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. One student rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |  |  |  |  |
|  | Papers in graduate courses.1 **Writing: Mechanics.** Committee/Person responsible: Writing Subcommittee. | Average above 3 on a 4-point scale. Minimum score of 2.5 for all students (no students rated “not competent”). | Average = 2.5 (N = 12). No students below 2.5. No students rated “highly competent” (3.5 or higher). | This is slightly lower than expected. No changes planned. If needed, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |  |  |  |  |
|  | Exit interview of MA students. "The graduate program in economics developed my ability to communicate effectively." Committee/Person responsible: Chair and Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned, but we will continue to monitor. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Exit survey of MA students. "The graduate program in economics prepared me well for future employment." Committee/Person responsible: Chair and Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Septennial external assessment. Committee/Person responsible: Outside evaluator. (Performed in 2015) | Good quality master’s degree. | Has major (positive) impact on the lives of its graduates. | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
| 1. Graduates of the MA program in Economics will be trained to apply economic reasoning and tools to a wide range of economic issues and fields. | Exit survey of MA students. "The graduate program in economics increased my awareness of real-world economic issues." Committee/Person responsible: Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum |
|  | Exit survey of MA students. "The graduate program in economics made me a better-informed citizen." Committee/Person responsible: Chair and Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Septennial external assessment. Committee/Person responsible: Outside evaluator. (Performed in 2015) | Good quality master’s degree. | Has major (positive) impact on the lives of its graduates. | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
| 1. Graduates of the MA program in Economics will be well-informed citizens with increased awareness of real-world economic issues. | Exit survey of MA students. "The graduate program in economics increased my awareness of real world economic issues." Committee/Person responsible: Chair and Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum |
|  | Exit survey of MA students. "The graduate program in economics made me a better-informed citizen." Committee/Person responsible: Chair and Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Exit survey of MA students. "The graduate program in economics developed my capability to apply economic theory to new situations." Committee/Person responsible: Chair and Survey Coordinator. | Average above 4 on a 5-point Likert scale. | No exit interviews in AY2017. | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |
|  | Septennial external assessment. Committee/Person responsible: Outside evaluator. (Performed in 2015) | Good quality master’s degree. | Has major (positive) impact on the lives of its graduates. | No changes planned. If change is necessary, the Graduate Committee and faculty will revise the graduate curriculum. |

1Copies of all papers written in graduate economics courses are provided to the Survey Coordinator. A sample of these papers is then chosen randomly for assessment purposes in each of four primary trait categories: Writing, Theory, Research, and Quantitative Methods. It is possible for a paper to be assessed in more than one category.

**PART TWO**

**Describe what your program’s assessment accomplishments since your last report was submitted. Discuss ways in which you have responded to the CASA Director’s comments on last year’s report or simply describe what assessment work was initiated, continued, or completed.**

Unlike previous assessment reports, we did not use three-year averages for calendar year 2015 and AY2017 due to the timing of this report and the unusual circumstances surrounding CY2015 and AY2017. In addition, we conducted an external review in spring 2015. Dr. Richard Grabowski, emeritus professor of Economics and former department chair, Southern Illinois University (SIUC), reviewed our graduate and undergraduate programs in April 2015. His overall assessment was that the Department of Economics at EIU is doing a good job at both levels in terms of teaching. He added that an impressive amount of research is being done here, given the teaching loads. Overall, “in comparison with SIU’s (graduate) program, one which I am quite familiar with, it is significantly better.”

**PART THREE**

**Summarize changes and improvements in curriculum, instruction, and learning that have resulted from the implementation of your assessment program. How have you used the data? What have you learned? In light of what you have learned through your assessment efforts this year and in past years, what are your plans for the future?**

There have been some new curricular changes in the MA program during the past academic year. We have added a new track in Financial Economics to our existing two tracks. However, feedback from exiting students and alumni has been used to move the department to create more quantitative courses, such as Applied Econometrics (ECN 5433). We are considering the addition of a Mathematical Economics course at the graduate level as well when resources become available.

The Department continues the process of developing an Alumni Advisory Board (comprised mostly from alumni). Several Economics alumni have been contacted regarding involvement with the Board and they all have shown strong interests. However, the financial woes of the recent past have prevented the process of installation and assembly of the Board. This board will help the Department plan curriculum and instruction in the future. We are also considering ways we can use information from this advisory board in the assessment of our graduate program.

The Department is in the midst of revising its alumni survey, and is discussing a way to get employer feedback as well.