



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, D C

Economics (M.A.)

Department Website: <http://www.american.edu/cas/economics/>

1. Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the MA Program will be able to:

1. Solve economic models mathematically and provide intuitive explanations of the results, and
2. employ and interpret econometric models to answer a research question.

2. Assessment Plan

Measures	Target	Learning Outcomes	Cycle and Reviewers
Comp Exam Graders' Report	Exam graders find that 90% (nearly all) of completed exams demonstrate student competency in learning outcomes.*	1	Within one month after submission of grades for the MA comprehensive exams, the Graduate Studies Committee will convene a meeting of Comp Graders to obtain their reports on strengths and weakness of MA candidates based upon the written responses in the examinations. The Committee will include notes from the meeting in the MA Assessment Report presented to the Chair and the Council each March.
Econometrics Instructors' Report	Instructors find that 90% (nearly all) completed course projects demonstrate student competency in learning outcomes.*	2	Each academic year, the Graduate Studies Committee will convene a meeting of instructors of ECON-523 and ECON-524 to obtain their reports on strengths and weakness of MA candidates based upon completed written assignments and examinations. The Committee will include notes from the meeting in the MA Assessment Report presented to the Chair and the Council each March.

Focus Group	90% (nearly all) of students express confidence in their ability to meet departmental goals.*	1-2	Prior to March 1 each year, the Graduate Studies Committee will convene a focus group of recent graduates. The Committee will summarize the proceeding of the focus group in the MA Assessment Report presented to the Chair and the Council each March.
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* May 2009 revision of targets; adoption requires endorsement of Graduate Studies Committee and vote of Council in Fall 2009.