

Program Assessment Plan
 American University
 Academic Program: CAS: Economics - BA

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Contact Person for Mary Hansen

Assessment:

Unit Website Address: <http://www.american.edu/cas/economics/index.cfm>

Unit's Primary Department: Economics

COLA Reader -1: Brian Yates

COLA Reader -2: Younghee Sheen

Learning Outcome: Micro Theory

Graduates of the undergraduate program will be able to use the micro model of market demand and supply to predict changes in price and output that result from exogenous changes.

Outcome Year: 2007 and prior
 2008-2009
 2009-2010
 2010-2011
 2011-2012

Start Date: 09/13/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
Test of Understanding of College Economics. Measure Type: Quiz/ Exam Related Documents: Appendix A	The average score exceeds the average score among Economics majors in the norming sample on Micro exam.	Each Fall term, the Undergraduate Studies Committee will coordinate with Capstone instructors to administer the Test of Understanding of College Economics to students enrolled in Capstone courses (ECON-480, -491, -492). Appendix A shows how the content areas of TUCE relate to Learning Outcomes 1-2. The Committee will include a summary of scores in the annual Undergraduate Assessment Report presented to the Chair and the Council each March.	Yes
Capstone Instructors' Reports. Measure Type: Final Paper/ Final Project	Capstone work shows that 75% of students show competence in the learning outcome.	Each January, the Undergraduate Committee will convene a meeting with Capstone Instructors to obtain their reports on the strengths and weakness of seniors based upon completed written assignments with respect to learning outcomes. The Committee will include notes from the meeting in the annual Undergraduate Assessment Report presented to the Chair and the Council each March.	Yes

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
Focus Group of Seniors. Measure Type: Focus Group	75% of students feel confident in their ability to use micro theory.	Prior to March 1 each year; the Undergraduate Studies Committee will convene a focus group of graduating seniors. the Committee will summarize the proceedings of the focus group in the Undergraduate Assessment Report presented to the Chair and the Council each March.	No
Survey of majors. Measure Type: Survey Related Documents: Survey of Majors	75% of majors feel confident in their ability to use micro models.	Each spring USC will conduct a survey of students and report results to the Council by March 15.	Yes

Related Courses

- ECON-200 - Microeconomics
- ECON-300 - Intermediate Microeconomics
- ECON-317 - Political Economy
- ECON-318 - Economic History
- ECON-319 - United States Economic History
- ECON-320 - History of Economic Ideas
- ECON-325 - Social Choice and Economic Justice
- ECON-341 - Public Economics
- ECON-345 - Introduction to Game Theory
- ECON-346 - Competition, Rgulation, and Business Strategies
- ECON-351 - Comparative Economic Systems
- ECON-353 - Economic Transformation of Central/Eastern Europe
- ECON-358 - Economics of the World Regions
- ECON-361 - Economic Development
- ECON-362 - Microeconomics of Economic Development
- ECON-370 - International Economics
- ECON-371 - International Economics: Trade
- ECON-373 - Labor Economics
- ECON-374 - Gender Roles in the Economy
- ECON-379 - Economics of Environmental Policy
- ECON-480 - Senior Research Seminar
- ECON-491 - Internship
- ECON-492 - Internship in Teaching Economics

Learning Outcome: Macro Theory

Graduates of the undergraduate program will be able to use macroeconomic models to explain the changes in output, employment, inflation, and growth.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011
2011-2012

Start Date: 08/13/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan

Assessment Plan

Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
<p>Test of Understanding of College Economics.</p> <p>Measure Type: Quiz/ Exam</p> <p>Related Documents: Appendix A</p>	<p>The average score exceeds the average score among Economics majors in the norming sample on the Macro exam.</p>	<p>Each Fall term, the Undergraduate Studies Committee will coordinate with Capstone instructors to administer the Test of Understanding of College Economics to students enrolled in Capstone courses (ECON-480, -491, -492). Appendix A shows how the content areas of TUCE relate to Learning Outcomes 1-2. The Committee will include a summary of scores in the annual Undergraduate Assessment Report presented to the Chair and the Council each March.</p>	Yes
<p>Capstone Instructors' Reports.</p> <p>Measure Type: Final Paper/ Final Project</p>	<p>Capstone work shows that 75% of students show competence in the learning outcome.</p>	<p>Each January, the Undergraduate Committee will convene a meeting with Capstone Instructors to obtain their reports on the strengths and weakness of seniors based upon completed written assignments with respect to learning outcomes. The Committee will include notes from the meeting in the annual Undergraduate Assessment Report presented to the Chair and the Council each March.</p>	Yes
<p>Focus Group of Seniors.</p> <p>Measure Type: Focus Group</p>	<p>75% of students feel confident in their ability to use macro models.</p>	<p>Prior to March 1 each year; the Undergraduate Studies Committee will convene a focus group of graduating seniors. the Committee will summarize the proceedings of the focus group in the Undergraduate Assessment Report presented to the Chair and the Council each March.</p>	No
<p>Survey of majors.</p> <p>Measure Type: Survey</p> <p>Related Documents: Survey of Majors</p>	<p>75% of majors will feel confident in their ability to use macro models.</p>	<p>Each spring USC will conduct a survey of students and report results to the Council by March 15.</p>	Yes

Related Courses

- ECON-100 - Macroeconomics
- ECON-301 - Intermediate Macroeconomics
- ECON-317 - Political Economy
- ECON-318 - Economic History
- ECON-319 - United States Economic History

- ECON-320 - History of Economic Ideas
- ECON-332 - Money, Banking, and Finance in the Global Economy
- ECON-353 - Economic Transformation of Central/Eastern Europe
- ECON-358 - Economics of the World Regions
- ECON-361 - Economic Development
- ECON-363 - Macroeconomics of Economic Development
- ECON-370 - International Economics
- ECON-372 - International Economics: Finance
- ECON-480 - Senior Research Seminar
- ECON-491 - Internship
- ECON-492 - Internship in Teaching Economics

Learning Outcome: Key Economic Institutions

Graduates of the undergraduate program will be able to describe the function of key economic institutions.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011
2011-2012

Start Date: 09/13/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
Capstone Instructors' Reports. Measure Type: Final Paper/ Final Project	Capstone work shows that 75% of students show competence in the learning outcome.	Each January, the Undergraduate Committee will convene a meeting with Capstone Instructors to obtain their reports on the strengths and weakness of seniors based upon completed written assignments with respect to learning outcomes. The Committee will include notes from the meeting in the annual Undergraduate Assessment Report presented to the Chair and the Council each March.	Yes
Focus Group of Seniors. Measure Type: Focus Group	75% of students feel confident in their ability to describe function of key institutions.	Prior to March 1 each year; the Undergraduate Studies Committee will convene a focus group of graduating seniors. the Committee will summarize the proceedings of the focus group in the Undergraduate Assessment Report presented to the Chair and the Council each March.	No
Survey of majors. Measure Type: Survey Related Documents: Survey of Majors	75% of majors feel confident in their ability to describe function of key institutions.	Each spring USC will conduct a survey of students and report results to the Council by March 15.	Yes

Related Courses

- ECON-100 - Macroeconomics

- ECON-200 - Microeconomics
- ECON-300 - Intermediate Microeconomics
- ECON-301 - Intermediate Macroeconomics
- ECON-317 - Political Economy
- ECON-318 - Economic History
- ECON-319 - United States Economic History
- ECON-320 - History of Economic Ideas
- ECON-325 - Social Choice and Economic Justice
- ECON-332 - Money, Banking, and Finance in the Global Economy
- ECON-341 - Public Economics
- ECON-346 - Competition, Regulation, and Business Strategies
- ECON-351 - Comparative Economic Systems
- ECON-353 - Economic Transformation of Central/Eastern Europe
- ECON-358 - Economics of the World Regions
- ECON-361 - Economic Development
- ECON-362 - Microeconomics of Economic Development
- ECON-363 - Macroeconomics of Economic Development
- ECON-370 - International Economics
- ECON-371 - International Economics: Trade
- ECON-372 - International Economics: Finance
- ECON-373 - Labor Economics
- ECON-374 - Gender Roles in the Economy
- ECON-379 - Economics of Environmental Policy
- ECON-480 - Senior Research Seminar
- ECON-491 - Internship
- ECON-492 - Internship in Teaching Economics

Learning Outcome: Data & Analysis

Graduates of the undergraduate program will be able to find information on prices indices, employment and unemployment, world-wide GDP and human development statistics; organize and manipulate the data in spreadsheets and statistical programs; and interpret statistical results.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

2011-2012

Start Date: 09/13/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
Capstone Instructors' Reports. Measure Type: Final Paper/ Final Project	Capstone work shows that 75% of students show competence in the learning outcome.	Each January, the Undergraduate Committee will convene a meeting with Capstone Instructors to obtain their reports on the strengths and weakness of seniors based upon completed written assignments with respect to learning outcomes. The Committee will include notes from the meeting in the annual Undergraduate Assessment Report presented to the Chair and the Council each March.	Yes

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
Focus Group of Seniors. Measure Type: Focus Group	75% of students feel confident in their ability to find and analyze data.	Prior to March 1 each year; the Undergraduate Studies Committee will convene a focus group of graduating seniors. the Committee will summarize the proceedings of the focus group in the Undergraduate Assessment Report presented to the Chair and the Council each March.	No
Survey of majors. Measure Type: Survey Related Documents: Survey of Majors	75% of students feel confident in their ability to find and analyze data.	Each spring the USC will conduct a survey of students and report results to Council by March 15.	Yes

Related Courses

- ECON-100 - Macroeconomics
- ECON-200 - Microeconomics
- ECON-300 - Intermediate Microeconomics
- ECON-301 - Intermediate Macroeconomics
- ECON-317 - Political Economy
- ECON-318 - Economic History
- ECON-319 - United States Economic History
- ECON-322 - Intro to Econometrics
- ECON-325 - Social Choice and Economic Justice
- ECON-332 - Money, Banking, and Finance in the Global Economy
- ECON-341 - Public Economics
- ECON-346 - Competition, Rgulation, and Business Strategies
- ECON-351 - Comparative Economic Systems
- ECON-353 - Economic Transformation of Central/Eastern Europe
- ECON-358 - Economics of the World Regions
- ECON-361 - Economic Development
- ECON-362 - Microeconomics of Economic Development
- ECON-363 - Macroeconomics of Economic Development
- ECON-370 - International Economics
- ECON-371 - International Economics: Trade
- ECON-372 - International Economics: Finance
- ECON-373 - Labor Economics
- ECON-374 - Gender Roles in the Economy
- ECON-379 - Economics of Environmental Policy
- ECON-480 - Senior Research Seminar
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- ECON-492 - Internship in Teaching Economics

Related Action Steps

* Supporting Assessment: Integration of Data Assignments

Description: USC will undertake activities to promote integration of finding and analyzing data into courses.

