Degree Program Assessment Plan

Degree Program - CASNR - Agricultural and Applied Economics (MS)

CIP Code: 01.0103.00
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Program Purpose Statement: (Non-Thesis) - Students will acquire advanced skills in economics, including economic theory and the tools of analytic analysis, and will gain experience in using those tools to analyze applied economic problems. (Thesis) - Students will acquire advanced skills in economics, including economic theory and the tools of analytic analysis for problem solving. With appropriate guidance, the student will be able to generate a researchable topic and to perform research on an applied economics problem.

Student Learning Outcome: (Thesis Option) Acquisition of Economic Knowledge
Demonstrated understanding of economic theory and quantitative methods.
Outcome Status: Active
Outcome Type: Student Learning
Start Date: 08/22/2011

Assessment Methods

Course Level Assessment - Completion of the core curriculum in economic theory and quantitative methods (AAEC 5303, AAEC 5307, AAEC 5316 or ECO 5311, ECO 5312) based on a scale of Excellent – 2, Satisfactory – 1, Unsatisfactory - 0. (Active)
Criterion: At least 80% of the students completing the specified coursework will have an index score of > 1.5.
Schedule: At the end of each academic year

Oral exam - Completion of the final oral exam administered by the advisory committee. (Active)
Criterion: Successful completion of the oral exam > 80%

Student Learning Outcome: (Thesis Option) Application of Economic Knowledge
Demonstrated ability to develop a research proposal, conduct analysis, & evaluate & report results.
Outcome Status: Active
Outcome Type: Student Learning
Start Date: 08/24/2009

Assessment Methods
Thesis - Evaluation of the economic and analytical content of a research thesis based on a rating of Excellent, Satisfactory, or
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unsatisfactory. (Active)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Criterion:</strong> At least 100% of the students will complete their research thesis with a rating of the content of satisfactory or greater based on excellent = 3, satisfactory = 2, marginally satisfactory = 1, and unsatisfactory = 0.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Schedule:</strong> At the end of the academic year</td>
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<tr>
<th>Professional Development Activities - Professional presentation or peer-reviewed publication (Active)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Criterion:</strong> Make at least one professional presentation or have a peer reviewed publication before graduation &gt;50%.</td>
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**Student Learning Outcome: (Thesis Option) - Communication of Economic Knowledge**

Demonstrated ability to communicate in written and oral form.

**Outcome Status:** Active

**Outcome Type:** Student Learning

**Start Date:** 08/22/2011

**Assessment Methods**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thesis - Completion of a research thesis with an evaluation of the content based on a rating of Excellent, Satisfactory, or Unsatisfactory.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Criterion:</strong> At least 80% of the students will complete their thesis with a rating of satisfactory or greater.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Schedule:</strong> At the end of the academic year</td>
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<tr>
<th>Oral exam - Completion of an oral defense of a research thesis with an evaluation of the presentation based on a rating of Excellent, Satisfactory, or Unsatisfactory. (Active)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Criterion:</strong> At least 80% of the students will complete their oral presentation with a rating of satisfactory or greater based on excellent = 3, satisfactory = 2, marginally satisfactory = 1, and unsatisfactory = 0.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Professional Development Activities - Professional presentation or peer-reviewed publication (Active)**

**Student Learning Outcome: (Thesis Option) - Employment**

Demonstrated ability to operate in an employment position requiring effective use of economic theory and analytic methods. Placement of student in a position in their field within 9 months of graduation.

**Outcome Status:** Active

**Outcome Type:** Student Learning

**Start Date:** 08/23/2010

**Assessment Methods**
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment</th>
<th>Placement of students in a position in their field (Active)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Criterion:</strong></td>
<td>Percentage of students employed within 9 months &gt; 80%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Student Learning Outcome: (Non Thesis Option) Acquisition of Economic Knowledge**

Demonstrated understanding of economic theory and quantitative methods.

**Outcome Status:** Active  
**Outcome Type:** Student Learning  
**Start Date:** 08/22/2011  

**Assessment Methods**

**Course Level Assessment** - Completion of the core curriculum in economic theory and quantitative methods (AAEC 5303, AAEC 5325, AAEC 5316 or ECO 5311, ECO 5312) based on a scale of Excellent – 2, Satisfactory – 1, Unsatisfactory - 0. (Active)

**Criterion:** At least 80% of the students completing the specified coursework will have an index score of > 1.5.  
**Schedule:** At the end of the academic year

**Student Learning Outcome: (Non Thesis Option) Application of Economic Knowledge**

Demonstrated ability to complete a professional paper demonstrating an understanding of economic concepts and analytical methods.

**Outcome Status:** Active  
**Outcome Type:** Student Learning  
**Start Date:** 06/06/2015  

**Assessment Methods**

**Capstone Assignment/Project** - Completion of a professional paper with an evaluation of the content based on a rating of Excellent, Satisfactory, or Unsatisfactory. (Active)

**Criterion:** At least 80% of the students will complete their professional paper with a rating of the content of satisfactory or greater.  
**Schedule:** At the end of the academic year

**Student Learning Outcome: (Non Thesis Option) Communication of Economic Knowledge**

Demonstrated ability to communicate in written and oral form.

**Outcome Status:** Active  
**Outcome Type:** Student Learning  
**Start Date:** 06/06/2015  

**Assessment Methods**

**Capstone Assignment/Project** - Satisfactory completion of a professional paper with an evaluation of the written content based
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Criterion: At least 80% of the students will complete their professional paper with a rating for the written content of satisfactory or greater.

Schedule: At the end of the academic year

Capstone Assignment/Project - Satisfactory completion of an oral presentation on their professional paper with an evaluation the oral presentation based on a rating of Excellent, Satisfactory, or Unsatisfactory. (Active)

Criterion: At least 80% of the students will complete their oral defense presentation of their professional paper with a rating of satisfactory or greater.

Student Learning Outcome: (Non-Thesis) - Employment

Demonstrated ability to operate in an employment position requiring effective use of economic theory and analytic methods.

Outcome Status: Active
Outcome Type: Student Learning
Start Date: 09/01/2006

Assessment Methods

Employment - Placement of students who actively seek employment in their field within 9 months of graduation. (Active)

Criterion: Successful placement of students who actively seek employment in their field within 9 months > 80%