

ECONOMICS ASSESSMENT PLAN

Department/Program: Economics

Student Learning Objectives (SLO) for MAJORS

1. Understanding the moral implications of economic issues:

Students will engage in meaningful dialogue, with students and instructors, on the moral and ethical dimensions of economic systems and policies within the context of a private Christian higher education institution. They will demonstrate an understanding of issues of poverty, income distribution and discrimination, exhibited through their written work and analysis of scholarly articles.

2. The Use of Applied Analytical Skills:

Students will be able to apply their analytical skills in explaining how markets function and its consequences. Students will demonstrate an active understanding of econometric techniques used in the field, through project work and term papers.

3. Understanding of Political Economy:

Students will demonstrate a level expertise in public policy issues, which will allow them to critique or defend a set of policies. This will be done through project work and research papers, which requires critical analysis using economic theory, history and data.

Outcome Measure	SLO's	Description of Departmental Use of Data
Pre and Post tests (administered to only Principles classes), Final Exams	1, 2 and 3	The department will use the data from the Pre and Post tests to ascertain weak areas for the students, potential room for additional material to be introduced or to limit the content in specific courses in order to emphasize key topics.
Student Portfolios	1,2 and 3	The students will work on projects and write term papers in the following courses: Econometrics, Comparative Economic Systems, International Economics and Economics of Developing Nations and History of Economic Thought. These papers will be

		evaluated by the department faculty in an annual meeting to assess the achievement of the goals through the papers.
Entrance and Exit interviews of graduates	1, 2 and 3	These will provide information for the assessment meeting for program improvements.
Alumni surveys	2 and 3	The department conducts a survey of alumni to learn about the efficacy of the economics program and the extent to which they use the knowledge gained from their degree.

1. **Results**—Review activities and findings by completing the Assessment Activities Table below. You can also provide a brief discussion afterward if you feel it would help the committee understand your assessment activities and findings during this cycle.

Assessment Activities Table

This year we assessed SLO(s)... (list each SLO in its own row)	...using Outcome Measure(s) (OMs). (See Report Instructions for description and example) Direct OM(s): Indirect OM(s):	Findings: program-performance for these SLOs, as indicated by these OMs, is: Excellent/Satisfactory/Needs Improvement (See Report Instructions for description and example)	Strategies for Improvement (in selected areas): (See Report Instructions for description and example)
SLO1			
SLO2			
SLO3			

Discussion (Optional):

2. What **revisions**, if any, to current SLOs and/or outcome measures did you make from previous plan?

3. **Plans-** What learning objectives will you be assessing in the next cycle?

Economics

Map II: Map Courses, Experiences and Activities to current Program/Department SLOs

Program/ Department SLOs-The SLOs below are new SLOs created in December 2014 to replace the three SLOs used for Curriculum Map I.

- **Student Learning Objective (SLO) #1:** Students will develop a deep and refined knowledge of both microeconomic theory and macroeconomic theory.
- **Student Learning Objective (SLO) #2:** Students will demonstrate proficiency in the use of applied econometric skills and the relevant software necessary to conduct empirical analysis.
- **Student Learning Objective (SLO) #3:** Students will acquire an understanding of the moral and ideological implications of economic issues by studying competing economic worldviews, contemporary issues, and economic history.
- **Student Learning Objective (SLO) #4:** Students will be able to analyze and express the manner in which governments and central banks influence individual markets and the overall economy.
- **Student Learning Objective (SLO) #5:** Students will be able to recommend and defend economic policies by drawing upon different economic perspectives and theories.

Intructions

Mark the courses/events/experiences/activities that currently address either Program SLOs or VU/Gen Ed SLOs for Gen Ed courses using the following:

Enter an I to indicate students are introduced to the SLO

R indicates the SLO is reinforced and students afforded opportunities to practice

M indicates that students have had sufficient practice and can now demonstrate mastery appropriate for the degree level

A indicates where evidence is collected and evaluated for program-level assessment as specified in the Departmental Assessment Plan

Course/ Experience	Program/Departme					VU/Gen Ed SLOS					
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#1	#2	#3	#10	#5	#7
ECON 136	I		I	I	I	I	I	I			
MATH 131	I	I									
IDS 205		R									
ECON 210	R		R, A	R, A	R, A						
ECON 221	I, A		I	I	I	I	I	I			
ECON 222	I, A		I	I	I	I	I	I			
ECON 233	R		R, A	R, A	R, A	I	I	I	I		
ECON 236	R		R, A	R, A	R, A						
ECON 321	M, A			R, A	R, A						
ECON 322	M, A			R, A	R, A						
ECON 325	R	M, A									
ECON 326	R		M, A	M, A	M, A						
ECON 336	R		M, A	M, A	M, A	R	R	R	R	R	R
ECON 337	R		M, A	M, A	M, A						
ECON 339	R		M, A	M, A	M, A						
ECON 370	R		M, A	R, A	R, A						