

W. Frank Barton School of Business MAcc program 2005-2006 Assessment Plan

A. Mission Statement

- The mission of the W.S.U. School of Accountancy is to be a preferred source of professional accountants in the state and region.
- Capitalizing on the unique opportunities of our metropolitan setting, the School's educational programs, research contributions, and professional interactions provide an intellectual arena in which high quality teaching and learning are pivotal.
- School of Accountancy graduates possess:
 - the necessary foundation for initial and continuing career success
 - a commitment and capability for the highest level of professional service to society
 - the skills and learning habits essential for maintaining and enhancing their professional competencies over a lifetime

B. Constituents

The graduate students in the MAcc program of the School of Accountancy are the program constituents.

C. Program Objectives

1. To enroll and retain high quality students in the program in numbers sufficient to maintain a strong, viable program
2. To provide students with the foundation for sitting for and passing the Certified Public Accounting Examination
3. To provide qualified AACSB-level faculty for the program
4. To provide an appropriate number of graduate courses for the program
5. To ensure graduates are satisfied with the program in terms of knowledge gained and skills developed

D. Educational Student Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate skills in effective communication and team work
2. Students will demonstrate an ability to use and manage technology
3. Students will develop critical thinking and problem solving skills
4. Students will demonstrate an ability to conduct research of accounting standards and tax law

E. Assessment of Program Objectives

Objective 1 – To enroll and retain high quality students in the program in numbers sufficient to maintain a strong, viable program

Assessment: Annual monitoring of enrollment data supplied by Graduate School

Objective 2 – To provide students with the foundation for sitting for and passing the Certified Public Accounting Examination

Assessment: Annual monitoring of employer and recent graduate surveys; Review of Kansas Board of Accountancy list of candidates passing the exam for those passing the Kansas exam

Objective 3 – To provide qualified AACSB-level faculty for the program

Assessment: Annual monitoring of course records and faculty activity reports to ensure compliance with AACSB standards

Objective 4 – To provide an appropriate number of graduate courses for the MAcc program

Assessment: Review of course schedules each semester prior to final submission to the university register

Objective 5 - To ensure students and graduates are satisfied with the program in terms of knowledge gained and skills developed

Assessment: Mandatory use of SPTE in courses
Review of annual graduate surveys

F. Assessment of Educational Student Outcomes

Outcome 1 - Students will demonstrate skills in effective communication and team work

Assessment: Evaluation of group projects, student presentations and papers completed for the management control systems course as well as financial accounting research and tax research classes; review periodic alumni and employer surveys

Outcome 2 - Students will demonstrate an ability to use and manage technology

Assessment: Evaluation of student competency in the use of technology and systems in Acct. 860 (Advanced Acct. Information Systems); review of periodic alumni and employer surveys

Outcome 3 - Students will develop critical thinking and problem solving skills

Assessment: Review of periodic alumni and employer surveys

Objective 4 - Students will demonstrate an ability to conduct research of accounting standards and tax law

Assessment: Evaluation of student competency shown on various research projects in the financial accounting research and tax research courses; review of periodic alumni and employer surveys

G. Feedback loop used by faculty

The Barton School Graduate Programs Committee is charged with the evaluation and modification of the graduate programs offered within the Barton School of Business. Committee composition is a faculty member from each of the five departments in the Barton School, the Associate Dean for Graduate Programs, a (non-voting) graduate student representative, and the program coordinators for each of the graduate programs in the college. The committee evaluates and approves/rejects curricular and policy changes made by program administration, faculty and departments with respect to the Master of Accountancy, and other business graduate programs programs. Assessment data is evaluated by this body and curriculum change recommendations are made as a result of assessment outcomes. The committee is responsible for reviewing and approving each program's annual report to the Graduate School and the incorporation of the report into the Barton School Annual Report required for AACSB ongoing accreditation. In addition, the School of Accountancy conducts annual faculty retreats and semi-annual Board of Advisors meetings to review aspects of the program and obtain input from independent sources. Action is taken as appropriate to address issues raised in these venues.