

**Finance Department
Learning Outcomes & Assessment Measurement**

November 27, 2012

PHD IN FINANCE

Overview

In Fall 2011, finance faculty met to determine the desired learning outcomes for finance doctoral students. A consultant specializing in assessment assisted the faculty process in specifying learning outcomes for the program and fine-tuning the rubrics to be used in measuring the students. The department has received the "Achievement in Assessment" designation from the UA Office of the Provost.

The finance faculty partitioned learning outcomes into two primary areas: Research; and Teaching. Measurement of assessment outcomes began in Spring 2012 semester. The Ph.D. Assessment Rubrics are presented in Appendix E.

Assessment measurements of doctoral student research were started in Spring 2012. Assessment is conducted during 2nd year paper presentations, oral examination/dissertation proposals and final dissertation defense. Faculty will meet a least annually to review the results of the measurement of learning outcomes and to see if the assessment activities should be modified.

Assessment Findings

All tenured/tenure-track finance faculty attend 2nd year doctoral student presentations. Designated committee members attend oral comprehensive examination and final dissertation defense presentations. At each presentation, faculty assesses the student's achievement of learning outcomes through the assessment rubrics (see Appendix E).

Assessment measurements of the 2nd year paper research presentation are provided in the first table below. The second table reports the assessment measurements of the oral examination/dissertation proposal and the third table reports the assessment measurements of the final dissertation defense.

The first table reflects the average of the three students who have completed the 2nd year paper since assessment measurements were in place. The average is the achievement of the learning objectives: Students exceeding requirements, meeting requirements or unsatisfactory as measured by the assessment rubrics provided in Appendix E.

Research - Evaluation of written and oral communication skills and finance knowledge throughout the program (2nd year paper, dissertation proposal and defense)

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Assessment Scale: 3 = Exceeds Requirements; 2 = Meets Requirements; 1 = Unsatisfactory

Summarized Rubric Averages for PhD 2nd Year Paper Assessment Activity		
Criterion	Average	
	Year 2011-12 (n=1)	Year 2012-13 (n=1)
Finance Knowledge & Skills: Research Question & Design	2.8	2.1
Finance Knowledge & Skills: Data Analysis	2.9	2.0
Finance Knowledge & Skills: Contribution to Knowledge	2.4	2.3
Oral Communication Skills: Content	2.9	2.2
Oral Communication Skills: Organization	2.7	2.4
Oral Communication Skills: Delivery	2.7	1.8
Written Communication Skills: Conventional Form	2.9	2.5
Written Communication Skills: Clarity and Coherence	2.7	2.3
Written Communication Skills: Focus, Organization, Style/Tone and Content	2.8	2.5

The follow two tables reflect the average of the two students who have completed the oral examination and the final dissertation defense since assessment measurements were in place. The average is the achievement of the learning objectives: Students exceeding requirements, meeting requirements or unsatisfactory as measured by the assessment rubric.

Summarized Rubric Averages for PhD Dissertation Proposal / Oral Exam		
Criterion	Average	
	Year 2011-12 (n=1)	Year 2012-13 (n=1)
Finance Knowledge & Skills: Research Question & Design	2.8	2.8
Finance Knowledge & Skills: Data Analysis	2.5	2.8
Finance Knowledge & Skills: Contribution to Knowledge	2.5	2.5
Oral Communication Skills: Content	3.0	2.5
Oral Communication Skills: Organization	2.3	2.3
Oral Communication Skills: Delivery	3.0	2.8
Written Communication Skills: Conventional Form	3.0	2.8
Written Communication Skills: Clarity and Coherence	2.8	2.8
Written Communication Skills: Focus, Organization, Style/Tone and Content	3.0	2.5

Summarized Rubric Averages for PhD Dissertation Defense	
	Average
Criterion	Year 2011-12 (n=2)
Finance Knowledge & Skills: Research Question & Design	2.8
Finance Knowledge & Skills: Data Analysis	2.8
Finance Knowledge & Skills: Contribution to Knowledge	2.8
Oral Communication Skills: Content	2.8
Oral Communication Skills: Organization	2.8
Oral Communication Skills: Delivery	2.7
Written Communication Skills: Conventional Form	2.4
Written Communication Skills: Clarity and Coherence	2.1
Written Communication Skills: Focus, Organization, Style/Tone and Content	2.3

- Teaching**
- Evaluation by faculty of doctoral students' teaching skills (including evaluation of syllabi, in-class observation and review of teacher course evaluations)
 - Exit survey of graduates

A summary of the summer teaching assessment of Ph.D.-Finance instructors will be posted soon.