

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS

Proposal for Change in Assessment Plans/Processes

NOTE: Changes in assessment plans/processes can be reviewed only during the regular academic year. Action-item proposals must be received by the Academic Assessment Committee at least one month before action is desired.

Department **EFIRM** Date **6/17/2025**

Program for which the change is proposed **BA and BS in Economics**

Action Item	Information Item
Select area(s) of change: ☐ New assessment plan ☒ Assessment plan revision ☐ Alternative reporting method ☐ Other	Select area(s) of change: ☐ Minor change of wording ☐ Minor change in assessment criteria ☐ Rubric updates ☐ Curriculum/Curriculum Map Update ☐ Other

Description of change:

We replaced the critical inquiry learning goal with a nearly identical discipline specific learning goal. We deleted the learning objectives and goals associated with responsible living and diversity. We now do all of the assessment in the senior seminar class.

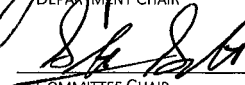
Reason for change:

We added the discipline specific goal and learning objective to better assess the students' economic knowledge. Since this learning goal is nearly identical to the critical thinking learning goal, we deleted the critical thinking learning goal. We eliminated the goals and learning objectives for responsible living and diversity to avoid duplication since these learning objectives are assessed in the CORE. We eliminate assessments in Intermediate Macroeconomics (Econ 3302) since 1) this class will no longer be required in the BA and 2) Econ 4380 already assesses the learning objectives that Econ 3302 had assessed. Economics majors take many different paths after graduation. Some go to graduate school, others to law school, and others go to work for industry. Our summative evaluation, performed in the senior seminar class, can help us gauge students' general economic knowledge and ability to apply economic principles, which are necessary skills regardless of which path they choose.

Effective date of change: **May 15, 2026**

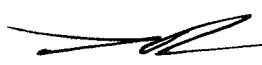
Change recommended by (for action items) or noted by (for information items)

College Curriculum and Assessment Committee


 DEPARTMENT CHAIR

 COMMITTEE CHAIR

9-29-25
DATE

10-10-25
DATE


 COLLEGE DEAN

10-11-25
DATE

Academic Assessment Committee

COMMITTEE CHAIR

DATE

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Proposed Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science in Economics (BA/BS) Assurance of Learning Plan

Goal: Our graduates shall possess		Objectives: Students will be able to	Measure: Students Will	Course	Benchmark
1. Students will develop and present ideas logically and effectively in order to enhance communication.		1a. Students will be able to produce professional quality research documents.	Students will prepare a report, paper, or case analysis on a discipline-specific topic in the writing-intensive course designated in their majors	ECON 4380	The mean score of students assessed will be at least 80% on the UCA Communication-Written Rubric.
		1b. Students will be able to produce professional quality research presentations.	Students will present in class an analysis of a major research publication assigned by the instructor.	ECON 4380	The mean score of students assessed will be at least 80% on the UCA Communication-Oral Rubric.
	2. Our graduates shall possess knowledge appropriate to the practice of their major discipline.	2. Economics graduates will possess the analytical skills to formulate an appropriate, discipline-specific question, research possible solutions, and provide accurate analysis.	Economics students will prepare a research paper demonstrating the analytical skills to formulate an appropriate, discipline-specific question, research possible solutions, and provide accurate analysis.	Econ 4380	The mean of students' points will be 80% or greater on the ECON 4380 Discipline Specific Assessment Rubric.

Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science in Economics (BA/BS) Assurance of Learning Plan To Be Replaced

Goal: Our graduates shall possess	Objectives: Students will be able to	Measure: Students Will	Course	Benchmark
1. Students will demonstrate a knowledge base that helps students ask more informed questions and analyze complex situations	1a. Students will be able to formulate an appropriate, discipline-specific question, research possible solutions, and provide accurate analysis	Students will prepare a research paper or other assignment on a discipline-specific topic	ECON 4380 3302	ECON 4380 will use UCA Critical Inquiry (A) rubric. The mean of students assessed will be at least 80% on the rubric. ECON 3302 will use UCA Critical Inquiry (B) rubric; benchmark will be at least 80% on the rubric.
2. Students will develop and present ideas logically and effectively in order to enhance communication.	2a. Students will be able to produce professional quality research documents. 2b. Students will be able to produce professional quality research presentations.	Students will prepare a report, paper, or case analysis on a discipline-specific topic in the writing-intensive course designated in their majors Students will present in class an analysis of a major research publication assigned by the instructor.	ECON 3302 4380 ECON 4380	The mean score of students assessed will be at least 80% on the UCA Communication-Written Rubric. The mean score of students assessed will be at least 80% on the UCA Communication-Oral Rubric.
3. Students will demonstrate the capability to live and act responsibly in modern societies and economies	3a. Students will be aware of ethical issues inherent in decisions and articulate the manner in which they arrived at an ethical decision	Students will complete an assignment (business case or other writing assignment) dealing with ethical decision making or the social responsibility of business.	ECON 3310 3330	The mean score of students assessed will be at least 80% on the UCA Responsible Living A (Ethics) rubric
4. Our graduates shall possess awareness of the global business environment	4a. Students will be able to identify cultural/global perspectives among stakeholders.	Students will demonstrate learning through a written assignment.	ECON 4335	The mean of all students assessed shall be at least 80% on the rubric.