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# Program Review

Self-Study Template

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Recommendation Activity Outcome

Consider incorporating the The Economics Department newly approved UNISCOPE model into the departmentÕs assessmen scholarship

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As part of the traditional core of the social **scies**, economics is one of the fundamental disciplines that constitute a comprehensive liberal arts education. In addition, economics has always been at the core of academic business education. An essential part of a university being an economic decisions.

An economics major in the Barton School requires a minimum of 21-dippision hours in economics, and must include:

¥ Econ 301, Intermediate Macroeconomics (3 hours);

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- ¥! Econ 302, Intermediate Microeconomics (3 hours);
- ¥! 15 credit hours of uppedivision economics electives with at least 9 credit hours in economics, another 6 with advisor consent (15 hours).

A minor in economics in the Barton School requires Econ 201 and Econ 202, Principles of Macroeconomics and Principles of Microeconomics, nine hours of uppedivision work in economics, with a minimum GPA of 2.25 in the economics classes a student has taken. Students in the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences have similar requirements for a major or minor in economics.

The majority of the courses offered by the economics department are largely comprised of students taking the courses to meet Business School requirements. As provided in Table 16 from the Office of Planning & Analysis for SCH by student department afficiation fall census day, over 86% of the SCH are taken by normajors. Less than 8% of SCH were taken by undergraduate economics majors.

The Economics Department offers multiple sections <u>eartheste</u> of four classes that serve the needs of business majors in the Barton School:

- ¥! Econ 201, Principles of Macroeconomics (3 hours);
- ¥! Econ 202, Principles of Microeconomics (3 hours).
- ¥ Econ 231, Introductory Business Statistics (3 hours);
- ¥! Econ 232, Statistical Software Applications for Business (1 hour);

The department also teaches multiple sections wear of several other courses that primarily serve the needs of business majors in the Barton School:

- ¥! Econ 340, Money and Banking (@ours);
- ¥! Econ 672, International Economics and Business (3 hours);
- ¥! Econ 674, International Finance (3 hours).

Both of the Principles courses, Econ 201 and 202, as well as Introductory Business Statistics and Statistical Software Applications for Businesson 231 and 232, are required of all Barton School business majors as part of the business core curriculum. Econ 340, Money and Banking, is required of all finance majors and finance minors in the ofy m6 (or) 6. (a) 9.2 (nd) -10. -2.3 (i) -4.6 (ne-(a) 9.2 (7/T

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students in the College of Education planning to become social studies teachers.

Our program has a large interdisciplinary component as demonstrated by the number listings with other departments and the number of economics esurequired by other majors and programs. We are also interdisciplinary in that we allow students to take upper division economics electives taught by faculty outside of the department. Three of the electives of the major, Econ 663, 709, and 765, Economic Insecurity, Urban Economics and Public Sector Economics, are listings taught by

plus

One elective course in economics, statistics , busines sngineering (Note: This concentration is stackable for students who have completed certificate in business analytics).

#### Financial Economic Concentration 1(2 hours)

This concentration is geared towards students seeking careers in the financial sector. Beyond the core, students are required to take the MBA core course, Fin 850: Maial@inance Three additional are chosen from either finance or an economics related subject. (Note: this concentration is stackable with students who complete proposed Barton School finance certificatehey would only be required to complete the core to obtain the M.A. degree).

#### International Economics Concentration (12 hours)

The International Economics track is geared to those with an interest in the international economy, both from a business and policy perspective. The required cours Escar 672: International Economics and Business, Econ 674: International Finance, and the seminar Econ 870: International Capital Market An elective class carbe chosen from international related courses offered by the Barton School or disciplines, such a political science.

#### No concentration: (12 hours)

This option is particularly suitable for the generalist or students who wish to pursue a doctoral degree in economics or a related discipline. Beyond the core, students may take whatever classes incore that interest them. Students interested in doctoral work are encouraged to take some of their elective hours outside of the department in either mathematics or statistics. Students interested in government work are encouraged to take electives of the department public Administration program.

#### Changes from prior program

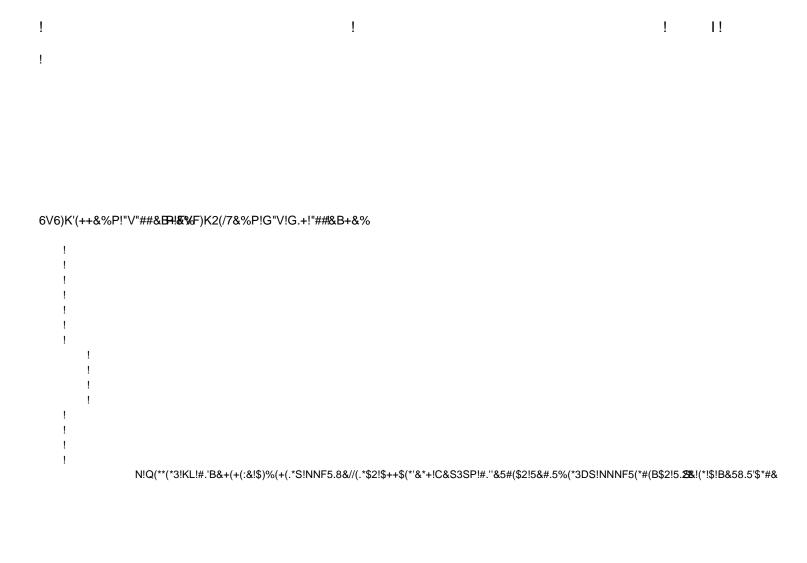
- i. Program burs were reduced from 33 to 30.
- ii. Thesis option was eliminated (all students now do a research project).
- iii. Data Analytics Concentratiowascreated
- iv. Econ 722(Topic in Micro6 (or) 28.7 BT 46 0 0 -4.6 (c) 912 (s) -2.3 ()) ] TJ ET Q q 0.24 0 0 0.24 12 58

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The Department does not have collective numerical standards. The **Scirton** sets standards for categorizing individual faculty for accreditation and teaching oad purposes. Economic epartment faculty fall into two categories

1) Scholarly Academidn part, Òøer the previous five years, Scholarly Academics must publish minimum of two (2) peer



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Teaching Awards:

A number of current Department faculty have been recognized for excellence in teaching:

Wichita State University Academy for Effective Teaching Award:-**Qb**nCheng (2011), Martin Perline (1997,)Jodi Pelkowski (2017)

Regents Award for Excellence in Teaching: - Othin Cheng (208), Jodi Pelkowski (2006) Janet Wolcutt (1986

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For each learning outcome the tablestudents were judged as Exceeding Expectations, Meeting Expectations or Did Not Meet expectations. The criteria used are given in Appendix

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| •   |  |                                  |                       |  |
|---|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Learning Outcomes   | Assessment Tool  | Target/Criteria                  | Results               | Analysis   |
| Students will describe consumer choice theory using indifference curves and budget constraints.                                     | Questions and Exam 1                                     | 80% Meet orExceeds Expectations  | A`S <b>j</b> ‼CGV≽dWD | Target not met. Action: Additional class time will be allocated to include more examples or applications of the theory and an announced quiz will be incorporated into the course to provide student feedback. |
| 2. Students wildefine cost minimization using isocost and isoquant analysis.  | Econ 302 (Homework<br>Questions and Exam 2<br>Questions) | 80% Meet or Exceeds Expectations | I=SAN!CGV>dWD         | Target met. No action required   |
| 3. Students will differentiate shortun and longrun implications of a change in market conditions in a perfectly competitive market. | Econ 302 (Homework<br>Questions and Exam 3<br>Questions) | 80% Meet or Exceeds Expectations | IAS?!!CGV≥dVD         | Target met. No action equired.   |
| Students will describe basicKeynesian ISLM     Aggregate Supply model   | ,  | 80% Meet or Exceeds Expectations | llS?j‼CGV>dD          | Target met. No action required   |
| 5. Students will define the basic Solow growth model.   | Econ 301 (ExanQuestions)                                 |                                  | AAŞtICGV>dD           | Target not met. More class time will be devoted to the topic. Additional articles about the slowdown in long term growth will be introduced.   |

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| Learning Outcomes(most programs will have multiple outcomes) | Assessment Tool (e.g., portfolios, rubrics, exams)  | Target/Criteria<br>(desired program<br>level achievement) | Results | Analysis |
|--|---|---|---------|----------|
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| Employi | mentof Ec         | onomicsMa                     | ijors*                    |  |                                       |   |  |
|---------|-------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
|         | Average<br>Salary | Employ-<br>ment<br>% In state | Employment % in the field | Employment:<br>% related to<br>the field | Employment:<br>% outside the<br>field | No. pursuing graduate or professional education | Projected gowthfrom BLS** Currentyear only |
| 2014-15 | \$45,000          | 60%                           | 80%                       | 20%                                      | <u>0%</u>                             | 5.90%   |  |
| 2015-16 | \$36,000          | <u>100%</u>                   | <u>100%</u>               | <u>0%</u>                                | <u>0%</u>                             | <u>13.30%</u>                                   |  |
| 2016-17 | <u>na</u>         | <u>50%</u>                    | <u>75%</u>                | <u>0%</u>                                | <u>25%</u>                            | <u>0%</u>                                       |  |

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to the university overalla(verage of 15.3% of junior and seniors and 8.67% of freshmen and sophomores or years 2014 to 2016) are identified as being part of undepresented minorities.

As documented in other sections of this re**port** consistent with historical enrollments, most of the students in classes taught by the Department of Economics are not economics majors, but are instead

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value employers put on economics majors compared to other majors by looking at a sample of over 1.5 million recent college graduates. When no other variables were controlled for, they found that the average earnings of economics majors were 20% higher than the average earnings of economics majors. Once controls were added for personal characteristics (age, ethnicity, citizen status, and Englis proficiency) and occupation, male business economics majors d 6.64% more than their non economicsmajor counterparts while female business economics majors saw a larger gain of 12.44% higher earnings. The earnings premium persisted for economics majors that pursued degrees beyond the bachelor of degrees. Conting for personal characteristics and occupation, economics majors with advanced degrees earned 10.68% and 7.9% higher earnings for males and females, respectively, than their noneconomics major counterparts.

According to the Bureau of Labor \$\frac{\text{\$\text{taics}}}{\text{total}}\$ to the employment of economists is projected to grow by 6 percent betwee \$\frac{20}{2016}\$ and \$2026\$ This is comparable to the average for all occupations Bureau of Labor \$\text{Statistics report th} \frac{20}{2017}\$ median annual wage of economists to \$\frac{10}{2017}\$ and \$\frac{10}{2017}\$ and

According to the Kansas Board of Regents data accessed at ksdegreestats.org, approximately 67% of WSU economicsgraduates work in the region with median annual earnings of graduates entering the workplace of \$39,296. The median annual earnings is higher tham FirManagement and Marketing majors at WSU but lower than that of accounting and MIS majors. Our majors fare well compared to economics majors at other Kansas institutions. With median starting salaries slightly higher at \$39,480 while KU, Emprita State and Washburn all having lower median starting salaries reported (\$32,393, \$36,272, and \$27, 909 respectively).

Consistent with what is reported in the occupational outlook provided by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, many of ourcenomics rajors often find employment in other businessated fields such as market research analysts. For example, some of our recent majors have found positions at Koch Industries and Flint Hills Resources as market analysts which is expected to have an entropy with rate of 23%, according to the Occupational Outlook Handbook

#### Placement:

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Of the 98 students who have graduated in the fraustacademic yearsthreeentered our own MasterÖs Program through the Accelerated Degree Programsian additional students continued into our basic MasterÕs Program in Economics (totalen for approximately 10%). One graduate went to Cleveland StateÖs MA in Applied Economics and one graduate went to Simon Fraser University to work on his MA in Economics. Two students went on to wedlspected MBA programs, one at Boston University and one at OregonEight of our undergraduates went to law schootHarvard, Washington University in St. Louis, Iowa, Rutgers Kansas University and Washburn University We do not have complete information on the employment of our majors. Of the majors that we do have employment data, student are employed as analysts at Invista; Koch Industries; Koch Supply and TrapinityAeroSystems; Cornerstone DataCerner Coporation, Key Bank, and KS Corporation CommissiSitudents have found employment in the financial divisions, HR Positions, project managed setate and sales positions a Deloitte Tax LLP, Grant Thorton, Sweetman Investment Graham Advisors Cargill, NIAR, Oklahoma Department of Commerce, InfoSync, Fidelity Bank, RCB Bank, Intrust Bank, MidAmerica Bank, Bank of America, American AgCredit, Colonial Life Insurance, EMC Insurance, IMA, USD259, Morgan Stanley, NAI Martens CommetcReal Estate/entus Group, DHL (supply chain)Dahlke and Associates, HSBC Data Processinglysia, and Catholic Relief Services headquarters in Maryland.

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MastersÕ program:

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MasterÕs Program:

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- a. Masters of Arts in Applied Economics
- b. The program was revamped in Fall 2018 in order to make it more attractive to studiewer( hours, a new Data Analytics concentrations tackability). The Department is also reaching out to selectundergradeconomics majors in key classes to recruit into the accelerated **(%/M/**& degree.
- c. The Department currently is budgeted for 3.5 graduate assistantships in both spring and fall semesters. A new assistantship is awarded when one becomes available ea.g. current holder graduates). As such, typically, only two new assistantships are awarded per academ became awarded to a student entering the program or one who has performed well in his/her first semester o year of study. It is expected that starting Fall 2019, additional assistantships will become available to MA economics students through the recently established Institute for the Study of Economic Growth. An assistantship may be used as an inducement to attract high news students. Most of our

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- a. Undergraduate economics major
- b. Faculty from the department actively participate in evgetsred toward high school students and hosted by Admissions and in Kansas Council of Economication (KCEE). One of our faculty members participates in orientation department offers tutoring services to major in economicand provides academic advising to majors in an effort to retain students.
- c. Recruitment: Four of our faculty members have takempus visitappointments with prospective students wheinformed of interested students dor request by admissions. One of our faculty members has met with potential students as requested by the Athletic Department. Four of our faculty members have served as judges and/or committee members for university and Barton School scholarships. Four of our faculty members hattended and hosted tables at Koch Scholars visits, majors/minor fairs, business career fairs. One of our faculty members help with and interact with participants at KCEE finance and economics challenges that bring high school students to campus.

Recruitment and Retention: Our department chair sends letters to students who have performed well in principles courses to meet with him and another factorisember (department undergraduate advisor) to discuss economics coursework, employment and career opportunities. Students are encouraged to meet each semester with department undergraduate advisor to select courses. Two of our faculty members have madeaculty welcome remarks/presentations to BADM courses for transfer students. At least one faculty member has attended each of the College Connections events. The Department maintains an Economics Tutoring Office that provides each

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|-------------------------|--|---|-------------------|
| To home study standards |  |   |                   |

To have students obtain an Learning Outcomes Data understanding of basic macro and microeconomic models.

To have at least 80 percent of graduates obtain positions consistent with their career goals.

To have at least 80 percent of graduates obtain positions consistent with their career goals.

To havestudents obtain an advanced understanding of Student selfeported data (supplemented, where possible goal has been achieved.

LinkedIn).

Based on available data, this goal has been achieved.

With online searches, e.g.,
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Learning OutcomeBata AY1

M.A. Learning Outcomes #2

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basic macro and microeconomic models.

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made this a requirement as we rely on an economist with the Center for Economic Development and Research to teach that course. An ongoing potential weakness of the program is the lack of a senior

- c. To have at least 80 percent of graduates obtain positions consistent with their career goals.
  d. To have students obtain advanced understanding of basic macro and microeconomic models.
  e. To have students acquire the ability to perform empirical economic research.

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## APPENDIX B LEARNING OUTCOME RUBRICS USED IN ASSESSMENT

### EconomicsUndergraduate Program

Overall Learner Outcome Identify standard microeconomics concepts and theories to explain the behavior of individuals, businesses, and industries in maldasted systems.

| Learning<br>Outcomes | Assessment Tool (e.g., portfolios, rubrics, exams) | Does not meet |
|----------------------|--|---------------|
|                      |  |               |

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|--|--|---|--|-------------------------|--|
| Learning<br>Outcomes   | Assessment Tool<br>(e.g., portfolios,<br>rubrics, exams)                           | Does not meet Expectations                          | Meets<br>Expectations                              | Exceeds<br>Expectations | Target/Criteria<br>(desired<br>program level<br>achievement) |
| Students will differentiate short run and long! run implications of a change in market conditions in a perfectly competitive market. | Intermediate<br>Microeconomics<br>Homework<br>Questions<br>and Exam 3<br>Questions | Failure to demonstrate basic knowledge of concepts. | Demonstrates<br>basic<br>knowledge of<br>concepts. |                         |  |

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Overall Learner Outcome attudents identify standard macroeconomics concepts and theories to explaination of and predict events in industrialized macro economies.



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**Economics Graduate Program** 

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| Learning<br>Outcomes | Assessment Tool (e.g., portfolios, rubrics, | Does not meet<br>Expectations |  |
|----------------------|---|-------------------------------|--|
|                      | exams)                                      |                               |  |

Overall Learner Outcome 2. To have students acquire the ability to perform empirical economic research.

| Learning | Assessment      |
|----------|-----------------|
| Outcomes | Tool (e.g.,     |
|          | portfolios,     |
|          | rubrics, exams) |