

**Master of Agribusiness in Food
and Resource Economics
Academic Assessment Plan
2013-14**

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

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Office of the Provost

*University of
Florida*

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2013-14 Academic Assessment Plan for Master of Agribusiness in Food and Resource Economics

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

A. Mission

Through a distinctive tradition of core-discipline excellence, interdisciplinary collaborations and productive partnerships, the Food and Resource Economics Department (FRED) teaches students to think critically, objectively and creatively and to be lifelong learners, engaged leaders and productive citizens; pursues research to advance knowledge and to address state, national and global challenges; and engages and educates the public.

The Food and Resource Economics Department supports the missions of the college and university to serve the nation’s and state’s critical needs by contributing to a well-qualified and broadly diverse citizenry, leadership and workforce through graduate education and to expand our understanding of the natural world, the intellect and the senses through graduate student research.

B. Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment Measures

SLO Type	Student Learning Outcome	Assessment Measures	Degree Delivery
Knowledge	Explain principles of economics, management, marketing, finance, quantitative analysis and policy as they apply to food and agribusiness firms.	(1) Minimum GPA in core economic classes.	Campus
Skills	Apply, analyze and synthesize content knowledge to solve management problems faced by food and agribusiness firms.	(1) Successful presentation and defense of internship report.	Campus
Professional Behavior	Display honesty and integrity in research and professional activities.	(1) Attends UF Student Services Honesty and Ethics training. (2) Adheres to the University of Florida's Honor Code.	Campus

C. Research

The Master of Agribusiness (MAB) is a non-research terminal degree. Students enrolled in the program are non-economic majors. Students are required to complete a research related project by completing an internship, making an oral presentation on the internship project and submitting an internship paper. The internship paper is focused around the topics of finance, human resources, marketing or management and a “research assessment” of those topics based on the specific internship duties completed by the student.

D. Assessment Timeline

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Assessment: SLOs	GPA in core courses	Internship report and presentation	Honesty and ethics training	Honor code
Knowledge #1	X			
Skills #2		X		
Professional Behavior #3			X	X

E. Assessment Cycle

Assessment Cycle for:

Master of Agribusiness

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

Analysis and Interpretation:

August 31

Program Modifications:

Completed by October 15

Dissemination:

Completed by December 15

Year:	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2016-17
SLOs				
Knowledge #1	X	X	X	X
Skills #2	X	X	X	X
Professional Behavior #3	X	X	X	X

F. Measurement Tools

SLO #1 is assessed using the “MAB Checklist” in Appendix A. The graduate coordinators office maintains the checklist and will identify students that do not have a 3.0 in the seven core courses, which include: AEB 5188 Economics of Agribusiness Decisions, AEB 5516 Quantitative Methods in Agribusiness, AEB 5326 Agricultural Financial Management, AEB 6183 Agribusiness Risk Management, AEB 6225 Public Policy and the Agribusiness Firm, AEB 6385 Management Strategies for Agribusiness Firms, and AEB 6675 International Agribusiness Marketing. The grades of these core classes are summarized on the Checklist and are reflective of knowledge as follows: C=improvement needed, B=satisfactory skills achieved and A=superior skill achievement. An overall skill level of B, measured by cumulative GPA in the core classes, is required to indicate a sufficient level of knowledge. Any student failing to achieve either standard is counseled by the graduate coordinator to discuss options, such as re-taking the course.

SLO #2 is assessed by the student’s supervisory committee with feedback from department members present during the presentation; students that “pass” the defense are deemed to have the described skills. To further assist students with SLO #2, an internship handbook was developed and is distributed to all MAB students and their supervisory committee to clarify the required skills and enhance the quality of the internship.

SLO #3 is assessed by (a) required attendance at a UF Student Services Honesty and Ethics training offered during FRED graduate student orientation and recorded on the student checklist, and (b) noting whether any comments were recorded on the Checklist (e.g., violations of the UF Honor Code had been reported to the Dean of Students Office).

G. Assessment Oversight

Name and title	Department Affiliation	Email Address	Phone
Sherry Larkin, Graduate Coordinator	Food and Resource Economics	slarkin@ufl.edu	352-294-7676
Rod Clouser, Chair	Food and Resource Economics	rclouser@ufl.edu	352-294-7623
John Vansickle	Food and Resource Economics	sickle@ufl.edu	352-294-7634
Lisa House	Food and Resource Economics	lahouse@ufl.edu	352-294-7653
Rick Weldon	Food and Resource Economics	rweldon@ufl.edu	352-294-7635

Appendix A: M.A.B. checklist

Name: _____

First Term/Year: _____

UFID: _____

Final Term/Year: _____

Semester 1 Meet with Jess for advisement _____
Summer B

Semester 2 FRED Orientation _____
Fall _____ Bio for website _____
Transfer of Credit from BS/BA _____
Supervisory committee _____
Program of Study _____

Student completed UF Student Services Honesty/Ethics Training that will help them to understand and display Professional Behavior during their graduate program (SLO #3):

Achieved: Yes No

Comments regarding professional behavior:

Semester 3 Summer Internship plan _____
Spring _____

Semester 4 Degree Application _____
Summer _____ Graduation Check _____
Final Presentation _____
Final Paper _____
Internship Evaluation _____
Final Oral Exam _____
Exit Surveys _____

Student applied, analyzed and synthesized content knowledge to solve management problems faced by food and agribusiness firms during internship process (SLO #2).

Achieved: Yes No Incomplete

Comments regarding professional behavior:

Core Courses

Grade (SLO #1)

AEB 5188

AEB 5326

AEB 5516

AEB 6183

AEB 6225

AEB 6385

AEB 6675
