











***Online Assessment Tracking Database***

Sam Houston State University (SHSU)  
*2014 - 2015*

**Project Management MS**

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| <b>Goal</b>          | <b>Leadership Development</b> <br>The goal of the MS in Project Management degree is to develop business professionals prepared for leadership roles.  |
| <b>Objective (L)</b> | <b>Critical Thinking</b> <br>Graduates of the MS in Project Management program should be able to distinguish between relevant and non-relevant information regarding a business problem and develop a valid argument in support of a conclusion.   |
| <b>Indicator</b>     | <b>Critical Thinking Writing Assignments</b>  <br>Written assignments throughout the MS in Project Management courses will be assessed using a common rubric on seven skills: 1) identify and summarize the problem/issue; 2) identify and present the student's own hypothesis, perspective, and position; 3) identify and consider other salient perspectives and positions; 4) identify and assess the key assumptions; 5) identify and assess the quality of supporting data/evidence; 6) identify and consider the influence of context on the issue; 7) identify and assess conclusions, implications, and consequences. Students receive scores ranging from 1 to 5, with 1 = emerging skill and 5 = mastery of skill. |
| <b>Criterion</b>     | <b>Critical Thinking Metric</b> <br>The average score on each of the seven critical thinking skills should be at least 3.75 out of 5 (75%) for all MS in Project Management students.   |
| <b>Finding</b>       | <b>Critical Thinking Finding</b> <br>There were 12 students enrolled in the MS in Project management program during the spring 2015 semester. None of those students were enrolled in courses in which critical thinking was assessed.   |
| <b>Action</b>        | <b>Critical Thinking Action</b> <br>During the 2015-2016 school year, there will be an effort to capture critical thinking assessment of MS in Project management students.  |
| <b>Objective (L)</b> | <b>Strategic Decision-making</b> <br>Graduates of the MS in Project Management program should be able to consider different strategic options using available evidence through the lens of organizational goals and generate applicable solutions for business problems.   |
| <b>Indicator</b>     | <b>Strategic Decision Making Written Assignments</b>  <br>Written assignments throughout the MBA courses will be assessed using a common rubric on four skills: 1) perform environmental scanning; 2) identify and retrieve needed and relevant business information; 3) integrate and  |

synthesize strategic information; and 4) generate plausible and innovative solutions to problems. Students receive scores ranging from 1 to 5, with 1 = emerging skill and 5 = mastery of skill.

#### Criterion

#### Strategic Design-making Metric 🔑

The average score on each of the four strategic decision-making skills should be at least 3.75 out of 5 (75%) for all MS in Project Management students.

#### Finding

#### Strategic Decision-making Finding 🔑

There were 12 students enrolled in the MS in Project management program during the spring 2015 semester, but only one student was enrolled in a course that assessed strategic decision making. Thus, one student in one online course scored a 2 on learning objective skills 1, 2, and 3. The student scored a 3 on learning objective skill 4.

#### Action

#### Strategic Decision-making Action 🔑

During the 2015-2016 school year, there will be an effort to capture more strategic decision making assessments of MS in Project Management students.

#### Objective (L)

#### Communication 🔑

Graduates of the MS in Project Management program should be able to demonstrate language and content that suits the intended audience and organize content in a logical sequence.

#### Indicator

#### Communication Written Assignments 🔑 🔑

Written assignments throughout the MS in Project Management courses will be assessed using a common rubric on four skills: 1) organization of ideas and content; 2) mechanics or writing; 3) professional format and use of conventions; and 4) professionalism. Students receive scores ranging from 1 to 5, with 1 = emerging skill and 5 = mastery of skill.

#### Criterion

#### Communication Metric 🔑

The average score on each of the four written communication skills should be at least 3.75 out of 5 (75%) for all MS in Project Management students.

#### Finding

#### Communication Finding 🔑

There were 12 students enrolled in the MS in Project management program during the spring 2015 semester, but only one student was enrolled in a course that assessed communication. Thus, one student in one online course scored a 4 on all four learning objective skills.

#### Action

#### Communication Action 🔑

During the 2015-2016 school year, there will be an effort to capture more strategic decision-making assessments of MS in Project Management students.

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### **Previous Cycle's "Plan for Continuous Improvement"**

The Graduate Advisory Committee will continue to meet in Fall 2014 to study the assessment results from the past year. The committee will continue to refine the assessment process as needed to obtain information that will enhance student learning outcomes.

**Please detail the elements of your previous "Plan for Continuous Improvement" that were implemented. If elements were not implemented please explain why, along with any contextual challenges you may have faced that prevented their implementation.**

The Graduate Advisory Committee will meet in the Fall of 2015 to discuss assessment of the MS in Project Management degree. Since PMI - the accrediting body for project management programs - requires different learning objectives than the three currently being assessed, it is likely the committee will adjust the assessment to fit the PMI requirements. If student numbers do not increase during the next year, the number of students assessed will continue to be low.

**Plan for Continuous Improvement - Please detail your plan for improvement that you have developed based on what you learned from your 2014 - 2015 Cycle Findings.**

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