

Higher Education Administration MA
Assessment Plan Summary

Higher Education Administration MA

Practical Application

Goal Description:

Develop a plan of action for keeping current, critically evaluating, and using research in higher education administration

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS-----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Identify And Evaluate Research

Learning Objective Description:

Students will identify and evaluate research in the field of higher education

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

HIED 5379 - Research In Higher Education

Indicator Description:

Activities in this course will emphasize how to locate and evaluate current research in the field of higher education.

Criterion Description:

80% of students completing all course activities will exhibit adequate research skills (at least a B average in the course).

Findings Description:

Spring 2016 - 11 students in the course - 8 A's, 3 B's (100% of students demonstrated research outcomes for the course)

Fall 2015 - 12 students in the course - 8 A's, 4 B's (100% of students demonstrated research outcomes for the course)

Writing

Goal Description:

Students will effectively communicate.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS-----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Writing

Learning Objective Description:

Students will effectively communicate through writing.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Comprehensive Exam Rubric

Indicator Description:

The "Writing Style" element of our comprehensive exam rubric has 3 levels and descriptions of work in each level.

Criterion Description:

80% of students completing the comprehensive exam will demonstrate writing at the "acceptable" or higher level of our rubric.

Findings Description:

Fall 2016 - 100% of students demonstrated sufficient writing on comprehensive exams. Only one student had to complete a second round of improvement due to writing issues.

Fall 2015 - 100% of students demonstrated sufficient writing on comprehensive exams. No students had to complete a second round of improvement due to writing.

Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement

Previous Cycle's Plan For Continuous Improvement (Do Not Modify):

Our plan for improvement includes:

- a) Communicating expectations for all instructors of HIED 5379 that writing and research skills should be the primary focus.
- b) Continue tracking student performance on comprehensive exams. While improvement is noticeable, we still have students who do not effectively demonstrate their skills on the first attempt in comprehensive exams.

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

The outcomes for application of research and improvement in professional writing were successful for several years in a row after new strategies were implemented in the curriculum including communicating expectations for instructors and a revamped process for evaluating research and writing through the comprehensive exams process. With the changes now part of regular practice and each graduating student group demonstrating improvement in these areas, we developed new outcomes for the 2016-2017 school year so other areas can be addressed.

Plan for Continuous Improvement

Closing Summary:

The HIED faculty has focused on the practical application of research for two years and have been successful in implementing lasting changes. New goals will be developed for the 2016-2017 school year.

Research skills continue to be a priority for the HIED program. Students receive initial instruction in HIED 5379 then practice their skills throughout their courses. Through comprehensive exams, students demonstrate all of their research skills. The HIED faculty will continue monitoring progress in HIED 5379 in terms of what students are introduced to, then what students are demonstrating through comprehensive exams.

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The HIED faculty has focused on students' level of professional writing for two years and have been successful in implementing lasting changes. New goals will be developed for the 2016-2017 school year.