Central Washington University
Assessment of Student Learning
Department and Program Report

Please enter the appropriate information concerning your student learning assessment activities for this year.

Academic Year of Report: 2009-2010       College:  Business
Department: Accounting          Program: B.S. in Accounting

1. **What student learning outcomes were assessed this year, and why?**
The student learning outcome assessed was to develop foundation knowledge and skills in accounting and business.

2. **How were they assessed?**

A) **What methods were used?**

Students were assessed using the Educational Testing Services’ Major Field Test in Business.

B) **Who was assessed?**

The population assessed was all graduating accounting majors during Spring quarter 2009, Fall quarter 2009 and Winter quarter 2010.

C) **When was it assessed?**

The Major Field Test was given to students enrolled in MGT 489 which is an accounting and business major capstone course required of graduating seniors during Fall quarter 2009 and Winter quarter 2010. Our standard of mastery criterion was that 90% of our students scored in the 50th percentile or higher on the Major Field Test in Business.

3. **What was learned?**

The results are summarized below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Students scoring at the 50th percentile or higher</th>
<th>Total Students Tested</th>
<th>Percentage scoring at the 50th percentile or higher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2009</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>71.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2009</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>69.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter 2010</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>62.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>68.39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The results did not meet our standard for individual students which was initially set at a high level of 90 percentile. Comparing institutional mean total scores using historical aggregated data, our accounting majors scored at approximately the 70, 68 and 67 percentile overall, respectively for the Spring 2009, Fall 2009 and Winter 2010 quarters.

As more and more quality AACSB schools start to use ETS, the Mean Total Score for each percentile level will increase. Therefore, the use of percentiles can be influenced by the schools using ETS.

4. What will the department or program do as a result of that information?

This past year the Department of Accounting faculty raised the minimum GPA requirement to be admitted into the accounting major. This change should improve the Major Field Test scores beginning at the end of next academic year.

Because of recent hires in the Department of Accounting, we will not consider the use of competitive admissions next year. The faculty will consider decreasing the mastery criterion next year to 75 or 80 percentile which may be a more realistic criterion with the composition of our majors.

5. What did the department or program do in response to last year’s assessment information?

The faculty tightened admissions requirements, explicitly requiring 3 math courses for admission into the major. The faculty also explicitly stated expectations for admissions standards for international students. The department also now requires incoming students to attend a mandatory advising session.

The accounting faculty discussed the beginning accounting sequences on campus and delivered by community colleges. The faculty believes that requiring three beginning courses from the community college and two on campus is working well and no changes were recommended.