

## General Information

<b>Academic Year:</b>	2017-2018
<b>College:</b>	Business
<b>Department:</b>	CIS & Quantitative Methods
<b>Program:</b>	Accounting and Information Technology (MS)
<b>Program Code:</b>	30.16
<b>Outcome Type:</b>	Student Learning (GR)
<b>Degree:</b>	Masters
<b>Coordinator/Contact:</b>	Dr. Hsun-Ming Lee
<b>Status:</b>	Data Entry Closed

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Master of Science in Accounting Information Technology (MSAIT) program is to prepare students for successful careers in the accounting and information technology professions. The MSAIT program emphasizes oral and written communication, information technology, and technical and research skills needed for a careers in accounting and information technology.

## Evidence of Improvement

In fall 2017, the MSAIT program completed the transition to the CIS&QM department. The student learning outcomes were revised. As a result, CIS 5358 (Agile Project Management) was added to assess various aspects of teamwork and the students were able to meet the expectation. ACC 5375 (Business Consulting), focusing on development and execution of consulting projects, was used to concentrate on the assessment of analytical/critical thinking (Outcome 2) and oral communication (Outcome 3).

In the academic year (AY) 2017-2018, MSAIT students were assessed on their ability of critical thinking, information technology, communication, and teamwork. By comparing to prior results, the assessment indicates improvement in the following areas:

**Outcome 1. Students will use information technology skills in decision making at a level expected of a master's student for practice in accounting and information technology. Students will learn to use information technology (IT) and be able to apply IT in analysis.**

### Method 1: Exam-embedded questions

For CIS 5555 (Database Management Systems), there has been improvement, from 80% (AY 2015-2016) to 100% of students meeting expectations. During AY 2016-2017, this measure was not assessed in CIS 5355.

**Outcome 2. Students will apply analytical and critical thinking skills to evaluate information, solve problems, and make sound decisions in accounting and information technology problems. Students will synthesize and evaluate the relevance of data and demonstrate analytical and critical thinking skills in exploring new questions, analyzing complex issues from multiple perspectives and arrive at reasoned conclusions.**

### Method 2: A series of four in-class quizzes covering consulting concepts

For ACC 5375 (Business Consulting), there has been improvement, from 68% to 100% of students meeting expectations.

## Action Plan

In the academic year (AY) 2017-2018, MSAIT students showed improvement on two of the four learning outcomes. However, regarding the method 1 of outcome 1 (information technology skills) in CIS 5368 (Information Security), the results did not meet the expectation. Compared to 2016-2017, the students in 2017-2018 perform with less success in learning information security. Details of specific action plans for each course used to help students meet the learning outcomes established for the MSAIT program are provided in detail for each course.

Additionally, a permanent course rotation schedule will be developed for offering the core courses of the MSAIT program. This will allow the faculty collectively to plan assessment methods and continuous improvement of the program's learning outcomes.

## Outcome 1

Students will use information technology skills in decision making at a level expected of a master's student for practice in accounting and information technology. Students will learn to use information technology (IT) and be able to apply IT in analysis.

### Outcome 1 - Method 1

CIS 5355 (Database Management Systems) and CIS 5368 (Information Security) will use exam-embedded questions. It is expected that 80% of the students will answer 85% or more questions correctly.

### Outcome 1 - Method 1 - Result

#### Results:

During the 2017-2018 fall and spring semesters, students enrolled in the CIS 5355, Database Management Systems, were assessed by the instructor. The results had 100% of the students scoring above an 85%. Also, students enrolled in the CIS 5368, Information Security, were assessed by the instructor. The results had 66 % of the students scoring above an 85%.

#### Action Plan:

For CIS 5355, since 100% of the students meet expectations, current presentations and evaluation of the course content will continue. For CIS 5368, the instructor will revise presentations to stress key concepts.

#### **Outcome 1 - Method 2**

CIS 5355 (Database Management Systems) and CIS 5368 (Information Security) will use a rubric to evaluate a set of out-of-class individual assignments/projects. It is expected that 80% of students will meet or exceed expectation with respect to their ability to use IT and be able to apply IT in analysis as defined by the rubric.

#### **Outcome 1 - Method 2 - Result**

##### **Results:**

During the 2017-2018 fall and spring semesters, students enrolled in the CIS 5355, Database Management Systems, were assessed by the instructor. The results had 100 % of the students scoring above an 85%. Also, students enrolled in the CIS 5368, Information Security, were assessed by the instructor. The results had 100 % of the students scoring above an 85%.

##### **Action Plan:**

Since 100% of the students meet expectations, current presentations and evaluation of the related course content will continue.

#### **Outcome 2**

Students will apply analytical and critical thinking skills to evaluate information, solve problems, and make sound decisions in accounting and information technology problems. Students will synthesize and evaluate the relevance of data and demonstrate analytical and critical thinking skills in exploring new questions, analyzing complex issues from multiple perspectives and arrive at reasoned conclusions.

#### **Outcome 2 - Method 1**

CIS 5355 (Database Management Systems) will use a rubric to evaluate a set of out-of-class individual assignments/projects. It is expected that 80% of students will meet or exceed expectations relating to a student's ability to apply accounting and information technology knowledge in new and unfamiliar circumstances as defined by the rubric.

#### **Outcome 2 - Method 1 - Result**

##### **Results:**

The Ability to develop conceptual model, normalize, implement relational database schema, and write SQL queries for given scenarios was tested through assignments. The results had 100 % of the students meeting or exceeding the expectations.

##### **Action Plan:**

The approach to enhance understanding by discussing additional examples worked well. Thus this approach will be used in future semesters.

#### **Outcome 2 - Method 2**

In ACC 5375 (Business Consulting), projects will be used to assess students' ability to apply accounting and IT knowledge. The projects will be assessed using a rubric. It is expected that 80% of students will meet or exceed expectations as defined by the rubric.

#### **Outcome 2 - Method 2 - Result**

##### **Results:**

The ability to understand consulting concepts was tested through a series of four in-class quizzes covering consulting concepts. The results had 100 % of the students meeting or exceeding the expectations.

##### **Action Plan:**

Rigor will remain the same. Greater emphasis will be placed on quiz preparation.

#### **Outcome 3**

Students will conceptualize a complex issue into a coherent written or oral statement. To fulfill the written portion of the outcome, the student will develop well-written reports, memos, and projects that explain findings, organize ideas into a coherent train of thought, and justify a conclusion or recommendation. Students will make effective oral presentations that explain findings, organize ideas into a coherent train of thought, and justify a conclusion or recommendation

#### **Outcome 3 - Method 1**

CIS 5368 (Information Security) will use out-of-class individual assignments/projects. The instructor will use a rubric to evaluate the set of out-of-class assignments. It is expected that 80% of the students will meet or exceed expectations established for written and oral communication skills as defined by the rubric.

#### **Outcome 3 - Method 1 - Result**

##### **Results:**

During the fall semester of 2017, students enrolled in the CIS 5368, Information Security, were assessed by the instructor. Students were assigned a project to present and PowerPoint slides were assessed. Students were provided a sample PowerPoint presentation used as guidelines for

making their presentations. The results had 83 % of the students meeting or exceeding the expectations.

**Action Plan:**

The course instructor will continue to devote class time to discuss with students ways to improve the project content.

**Outcome 3 - Method 2**

Oral communication skills will be assessed through student presentations in ACC 5375 (Business Consulting). A rubric will be used for the assessment. It is expected that 80% of students will meet or exceed expectations as defined by the rubric.

**Outcome 3 - Method 2 - Result**

**Results:**

During the 2017-2018 fall and spring semesters, consulting skills were assessed on style, flow, and analytical content based on a project's proposal and final report. The results had 100 % of the students meeting or exceeding the expectations. Students were provided with several examples of actual consulting proposals and two examples of a consultant's final report. Overall rigor was increased based on the good practices used in the examples.

**Action Plan:**

Student writing is consistent with skills of a Sr. Consultant in a Big "4" firm. Since 100% of the students meet expectations after increased scoring rigor, current presentations and evaluation of the related course content will continue.

**Outcome 4**

Students will understand the importance of group dynamics in achieving organizational goals and use the skills needed for effective teamwork. Students will demonstrate an ability to work effectively in teams.

**Outcome 4 - Method 1**

In CIS 5358 (Agile Project Management), students will be assigned to teams to work on a project or projects. Various aspects of effective, quality teamwork will be assessed based on a rubric. It is expected that 80% of students will meet or exceed expectations as defined by the rubric.

**Outcome 4 - Method 1 - Result**

**Results:**

During the spring semester of 2018, students enrolled in the CIS 5358, Agile Project Management, were assessed by the instructor. Various group project deliverables were assigned throughout the semester. Teamwork quality of product backlog, sprint backlogs, sprint review, and sprint retrospective, in addition to quality of final project deliverable were used for the assessment. The results had 100 % of the students meeting or exceeding the expectations.

**Action Plans:**

The instructor will increase rigor by adding more interactive exercises, more active coaching on project, and larger % grade for project.

**Outcome 4 - Method 2**

CIS 5355 (Data Management Systems) will use an out-of-class group projects to assess this skill, using a rubric. It is expected that 80% of students will meet or exceed expectations as defined by the rubric.

**Outcome 4 - Method 2 - Result**

**Results:**

A small group project requiring students to write a term paper for a database related topic was used for the assessment. The results had 100 % of the students meeting or exceeding the expectations.

**Action Plan:**

Emphasis will be placed on explaining selection of an appropriate topic, and finding articles and working as a team to write the term paper.

**Outcome 5**

- Goal:** 1. Promote the success of all students.  
**Initiative:** 1.3 Increase student retention and graduation rates.

The academic program will promote and realize gains in student success.

**Outcome 5 - Method 1**

Student retention success will be measured by observing one year retention rates of students enrolled in the academic program from their first to second year. Data will be obtained from the university's certified enrollment records at the end of the fall semester. Rates of retention success will be expected to be at or above the university average for this level of program.

**Outcome 5 - Method 1 - Result**

*The number of entering students enrolled in the academic program who returned the second year provided the data to assess retention. In this program, 8 of the 10 entering students in 2016-2017 returned for their second year in fall of 2017 for a one-year retention rate of 80.0%.*

**Outcome 5 - Method 2**

Student graduation success will be measured by observing the number of graduates from the academic program in during the fall, spring, and summer semesters and comparing the number of graduates to the number of students enrolled in the program. Data will be obtained from the university's certified enrollment records for the fall, spring, and summer semesters. The number of graduates is expected to be at or above the university rate of graduation for this level of program.

**Outcome 5 - Method 2 - Result**

*The number of students graduating from the degree program during the 2017-2018 fall, spring, and summer semesters along with the total number of students enrolled in the program provided the data to assess student graduation success. In this program, 4 of the 15 students enrolled in the program graduated in the fall, spring, and summer semesters for a graduation percentage of 26.7.*

**Outcome 6**

The academic program will promote and realize diversity among its student population.

**Outcome 6 - Method 1**

Student gender diversity will be measured by reviewing the number and percentage of male and female students enrolled in the academic program during the fall, spring, and summer semesters. Data will be obtained from the university's certified enrollment records at the end of the fall semester. Student gender diversity will be expected to be balanced (50/50).

**Outcome 6 - Method 1 - Result**

*The number of male verses female student enrolled in the academic program during the 2017 fall semester provided the gender data. In this program, 9 of the 15 students or 60% were female while 6 of the students or 40% were male providing an imbalanced gender distribution and not meeting the expected target.*

**Outcome 6 - Method 2**

Student racial and ethnic diversity will be measured by observing race and ethnicity of students enrolled in the academic program during the fall, spring, and summer semesters. Data will be obtained from the university's certified enrollment records at the end of the fall semester. Student racial and ethnic diversity will be expected to mirror percentages in the population of the state of Texas.

**Outcome 6 - Method 2 - Result**

*The number students of various ethnic backgrounds enrolled in the academic program during the 2017-2018 fall semester provided the data to assess ethnic and racial diversity. In this program, 0 of the 15 students or 0.0% (compared to 0.0% in 2016-2017) were African-American; 1 of the 15 students or 6.7% (compared to 11.1% in 2016-2017) were Asian; 5 of the 15 students or 33.3% (compared to 16.7% in 2016-2017) were Hispanic; 5 of the 15 students or 33.3% (compared to 38.9% in 2016-2017) were White, non-Hispanic; 0 of the 15 students or 0.0% (compared to 0% in 2016-2017) were of other minority or unknown backgrounds; 4 of the 15 students or 26.7% (compared to 33.3% in 2016-2017) were of non-resident International students. Compared to 2016-2017, the student population in 2017-2018 appears to represent a more diverse background.*

**Approval History****Approval History Event**

Outcomes Approved Level 1

Outcomes Approved Level 2

Outcomes Audit Report Submitted

Results Approved Level 1

Results Approved Level 2

Results Audit Report Submitted

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