

Annual Academic Assessment

Schreiner University

May 2004

Major Field: Accounting/Information Systems

1. State the educational purpose of the assessment program:

The mission of the accounting program at Schreiner University is to prepare students to enter a career in accounting and prepare students for future studies in accounting and/or business administration. To this end, the accounting program will seek to provide a set of skills commonly used in private and public accounting. The B.B.A in Accounting/Information Systems combines the two disciplines – accounting and information systems – into a synergistic degree program. Students become proficient in information systems theory and systems analysis and design while developing a solid foundation in the principles and practices of accounting.

All students majoring in accounting are expected to be knowledgeable and functional in the following core areas: financial accounting, individual, corporate and partnership taxation, principles of auditing and information systems analysis and design.

2. Educational goals, assessment for each goal, performance standards, and findings:

Expected Outcomes:

Goal #1 Financial Accounting : Demonstrate an understanding of financial statement preparation and reporting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Assessment Criteria: All expected outcomes are assessed by using assessment tests developed by the accounting faculty. The assessment process produces data by objective and by student. Assessment tests are embedded in the final examination of the intermediate accounting course and they test specific areas such as cash flow statement, accounting for leases and accounting for post-employment benefits. (See assessment criteria change for the year 2001/2002).

For year 1997-98

Assessment Results: Assessment testing formalized.

Use of Results: No assessment test results available at May 1998.

For year 1998-99

Assessment Results Overall class average for the assessment test was 70%. The class average for the cash flow statement was 81%, accounting for leases 60% and accounting for post-employment benefits 69%. Only two of eight students had satisfactory scores on the lease assessment test while 4 students had satisfactory scores on the PEB test.

Use of Results: Increased class time devoted to the coverage of accounting for leases and accounting for post-employment benefits.

For year 1999-2000

Assessment Results: The overall assessment test class average was 62%. Which is an unsatisfactory performance. However, the overall class average for those students who plan to complete the 150-hour accounting program, the average was 76%. Still, 40% of those working toward the accounting degree fared poorly on the assessment test related to leases & pensions.

Use of Results: In addition to increasing class time devoted to accounting for leases and accounting for pension plans, these areas will be covered earlier in the intermediate course to allow time for the students to be tested in these areas on a regular examination. These areas are normally the last areas covered in the intermediate accounting course and students are not tested in these areas prior to the final.

For year 2000-2001

Assessment Results: The class average for the three categories respectively were 83, 80 and 62. Individual students scoring above 70% on the tests were 83%, 67% and 50%. Considering that this

is a small class with one student making an F and one student making a D the grades are satisfactory in the first two categories.

Use of Results: More time will be devoted to post-employment benefits in the future.

For year 2001-2002

Assessment Criteria: The assessment process for the school year ended May 2002 was changed. The final examination for the intermediate accounting II is currently used as the assessment test. Satisfactory performance is a C or better on the final examination.

Assessment results: Satisfactory performance on assessment test 100%.

Curriculum: The Accounting Major will undergo a program review during the fall semester 2002. Some changes in the curriculum may occur as a result of that review. One possibility is that the intermediate course may be changed from two semesters to three semesters to properly cover the required content.

Faculty Development: Faculty attend financial accounting update courses annually.

Out of class experience: Accounting students are required to complete an accounting internship under the direction of a CPA.

For year 2002-2003

Assessment Criteria: The final examination for the Intermediate Accounting II course is currently used as the assessment test for Financial Accounting. Satisfactory performance is a C or better on the final examination.

Assessment results: Satisfactory performance on the assessment test was 100%.

Curriculum: The Accounting Major was changed as a result of a program review during the year FY03. The major was changed from accounting to Accounting/Information Systems. Information Systems courses were added to the degree and intermediate accounting was changed from two to three semesters.

Faculty Development: Faculty attend financial accounting update courses annually.

Out of class experience: Accounting students are required to complete an accounting internship under the direction of a CPA.

For year 2003/2004

Assessment Criteria: The final course grade for the Intermediate Accounting II course was used as the assessment test for Financial Accounting. Satisfactory performance is a C or better in the course. For the year ending 2005 Intermediate Accounting III will be used as the assessment test.

Assessment results: Satisfactory performance was 100%. Seven students completed the course and all made a grade of C or better.

Curriculum: Accounting III will be offered for the first time during the fall semester 2004. First group of students with Accounting/Information systems major will graduate May 2005.

Faculty Development: Accounting faculty are encouraged to complete continuing professional education courses, and maintain active CPA status. Dr Frank Collins resigned May 2004, and Dr. George Petrie has been hired to teach accounting full time.

Out of class experience: Accounting Students are required to complete an accounting internship under the direction of a CPA. Senior accounting students will visit Monterrey Tec – Saltillo Campus during the Fall semester 2004, to observe the accounting program there.

Expected Outcomes:

Goal #2 Auditing: Demonstrate an understanding of conducting an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

Assessment Criteria: All expected outcomes are assessed by using assessment tests developed by the accounting faculty. The assessment process produces data by objective and by student. Assessment tests are embedded in the final examination of the principles of auditing course and they test specific areas of auditing such as an understanding of the ten generally accepted auditing standards, sources and types of auditor liability and the audit report of independent auditors. (See Assessment criteria change for year 2001/2002).

For year 1997-98

Assessment Results: Assessment testing formalized

Use of Results: No assessment test results available at May 1998.

For Year 1998-99

Assessment Results: This year's assessment test focused on the area of audit reports of independent auditors. The overall class average was 76%. Seven of eight students had scores of 70% or more. Although the results were satisfactory for a rather complex area, we would like to see improvement.

Use of Results: Allocated more class time to the area of audit reports. Scheduled class time to cover audit reports at the beginning of the semester for the principles of auditing course and then again at the end of the semester. Future assessment testing will include tests of other complex areas of auditing, such as generally accepted auditing standards, and auditor liability.

For Year 1999-2000

Assessment Results: This year's auditing assessment test focused on three different areas of auditing. The three areas were the audit report, the ten generally accepted auditing standards and sources and types of auditor liability. The overall average of the assessment test was 76%. Eighty three percent of the student's scored above 70% on both the auditor liability and the auditor report sections of the assessment tests, while only 67% of the student's scored above 70% on the test related to the ten generally accepted auditing standards.

Use of Results: Auditing assessment test results for the area of auditing were fair. Satisfactory scores were noted in the auditor report and auditor liability sections. Improvement is needed in the section related to the generally accepted auditing standards section. The coverage of course material for the principles of auditing class will generally remain unchanged. One exception will be to cover in detail the ten generally accepted auditing standards early in the semester then focus on the area once again late in the semester.

For Year 2000-2001

Assessment Results: All students scored above 70% on all areas tested. These areas have been emphasized during this auditing course because of results of prior year assessment testing.

Use of Results: Other categories will be tested during the school year ending May 2002.

For Year 2001-2002

Assessment Criteria: The assessment process for the school year ended May 2002 was changed. The final examination for the principles of auditing course is currently used as the assessment test. Satisfactory performance is a C or better on the final examination.

Assessment results: Satisfactory performance on assessment test – 100%.

Curriculum: The accounting Major will undergo a program review during the fall semester 2002. Some changes in the curriculum may occur as a result of that review. A new text for the auditing course will probably be required given all the changes most likely to occur due to recent accounting and auditing failures.

Faculty Development: Faculty attend a CPE auditing update course annually.

Out of class experience: Accounting students are required to complete an accounting internship under the direction of a CPA.

For Year 2002-2003

Assessment Criteria: The final examination for the Principles of Auditing course is currently used as the assessment test. Satisfactory performance is a C or better on the Auditing final examination.

Assessment results: Satisfactory performance on assessment test – 100%.

Curriculum: The Accounting Major was changed as a result of a program review during the year FY03. The Accounting Major was changed to Accounting/Information Systems. The Principles of Auditing course was not changed as a result of the program review. If a new auditing book is not available for the auditing course in FY04, the impact of Sarbanes/Oxley, and SAS # 99 will be added to the course content.

Faculty Development: Faculty attend at least 40 hours of continuing professional education each year including an auditing update course.

Out of class experience: Accounting students are required to complete an accounting internship under the direction of a CPA.

For year 2003/2004

Assessment Criteria: The course grade in the Principles of Auditing course was used as the assessment test. Satisfactory performance is a C or better in the Principles of Auditing course.

Assessment results: Satisfactory performance on the assessment test – 100 %. Only 3 students completed the course.

Curriculum: Auditing test books were reviewed and a new text was chosen which is updated in all respects including the impact of the Sarbanes/Oxley Act and SAS # 99. The new text will be used in the Principles of Auditing course in the fall semester 2004.

Faculty Development: Mr. John Jones, CPA, taught the course in the Fall semester 2003. Mr. Jones maintains an active status as a CPA, therefore completing a minimum of 40 hours of continuing professional education annually. Dr. George Petrie will teach the course in the Fall semester 2004. Dr. Petrie has a PhD. in Accounting.

Out of class experience: Senior accounting students are required to complete an accounting internship under the supervision of an accountant. Senior accounting students will visit Monterrey Tec in Saltillo, Mexico, Oct. 10 – 14 to review the accounting program at the University and get an update on Mexican GAAP and Mexican culture.

Expected Outcomes:

Goal #3 Taxation: Demonstrate an understanding of the taxation of individuals, corporations, and partnerships and applicable Internal Revenue Service Code sections.

Assessment Criteria: All expected outcomes (through May 2001) are assessed by using assessment tests developed by the accounting faculty. The assessment process produces data by objective and by student. Assessment tests are embedded in the final examination and they test specific areas of taxation such as depreciation-cost recovery, tax credits & determination of gains and property transactions: non-taxable exchanges. (See assessment criteria change for year 2001-2002).

For Year 1997-98

Assessment Results: Assessment testing formalized.

Use of Results: No assessment test results available at May 1998.

For Year 1998-99

Assessment Results: The overall class average on the tax assessment test was 70%. The class average for the determination of gain or loss was 69%. The class average for the nontaxable exchanges section was 88%. The class average for the nontaxable exchanges section was 54%, and the class average on the depreciation section was 88%. Scoring below 70% on the three sections were 3, 4 and 1 student(s) respectively. Test results related to nontaxable exchanges were unsatisfactory.

Use of Results: Included determination of gain or loss and nontaxable exchanges in May 2000 assessment test. Allocated more class time to property transactions-nontaxable exchanges.

For Year 1999-2000

Assessment Results: The overall average of the assessment test was 73%. Two of the three areas tested had average scores above 70%. The score for the non-taxable exchange section was 64%. The percentage of students scoring above 70% in the three areas tested were 63%, 75% and 75% respectively. One student inexplicably scored extremely low on all areas which was an unusual performance for this particular student. The student was a graduating non-accounting major. Assessment test results were good this year in the areas of depreciation, tax credits & determination of gains and losses. The test results for the area of non-taxable exchanges improved over the prior year results (54% vs. 64%). It should also be noted that the corporation and partnership taxation assessment test results (administered in December 1999) were good. The students taking this assessment test are the same student's which were given the May 1999 individual income tax assessment test. The class average of the corporation and partnership was 83%. The scores were good primarily because these students have completed their second tax course.

Use of Results: Assessment test results in the area of non-taxable exchanges for this year as well as last year indicates improvement is still needed in this area. This happens to be a complex area of taxation and represents a change of pace in the study of tax when compared to tax material previously studied by the student at this point in their career. In addition to allocating sufficient class time to cover this subject area, next year's students will be tested earlier in the semester (regular exam) on this subject. The topic will be discussed after the exam to clear up things not understood. This particular area of tax is usually one of the last areas covered in our tax course. But since it is an important area of tax we will continue trying to improve our results in this area. In the future we will include this area of taxation as well as other important areas of tax in the assessment test.

For Year 2000-2001

Assessment Results: Assessment scores in the area of Depreciation were unsatisfactory. Two thirds of the students scored less than 70% on this section of the assessment test. Test results for tax determination were good. Over 80% of the students scored above 70%. Test results on the non-taxable exchange section of the exam were adequate.

Use of Results: Allocate more class time to depreciation and increase assignment problems in this area.

For Year 2001-2002

Assessment criteria: The assessment process for the school year ended May 2002 was changed. The final examination for the Individual Income Tax class, and the final examination for the Corporation/Partnership class are currently used as the assessment tests. Satisfactory performance is a C or better on the final examinations.

Assessment results: Individual Income Tax – 100%.
Corporation/Partnership Tax – 80%.

Curriculum: The accounting Major will undergo a program review during the fall semester 2002. Some changes in the curriculum may occur as a result of that review. No changes are anticipated in the area of taxation.

Faculty Development: Faculty attend CPE taxation courses annually.

Out of class experience: Accounting students are required to complete an accounting internship under the direction of a CPA.

For Year 2002-2003

Assessment criteria: The final examination for the Individual Income Tax course and the final examination for the Corporation/Partnership course are currently used as the assessment tests. Satisfactory performance is a C or better on the final examinations.

Assessment results: Individual Income Tax – 100%.
Corporation/Partnership Tax – 100%

Curriculum: The Accounting Major was changed to Accounting/Information Systems as a result of a program review during the year FY03. No changes were made to the area of taxation.

Faculty Development: Faculty attend at least 40 hours of continuing professional education annually, including taxation update courses.

Out of class experience: Accounting students are required to complete an accounting internship under the direction of a CPA.

For year 2003-2004

Assessment criteria: The course grade for the Individual Income Tax course and the Corporation /Partnership course were used as the assessment tests. Satisfactory performance is a C or better in the respective courses.

Assessment results: Individual Income Tax – 100%. Seven (7) students completed the course. Corporation/Partnership Taxation – 100%. Four (4) students completed the course.

Curriculum: No changes were made to the curriculum in the area of taxation as a result of the assessment tests.

Faculty Development: Mr. John Jones, CPA taught both tax courses during the 2003/2004 school year. Mr. Jones completes 40 hours of CPE (continuing professional

education) annually. Dr. George Petrie is scheduled to teach both courses during 2004/2005. Dr. Petrie has a PhD. in accounting.

Out of class experience: Senior accounting students are required to complete an accounting internship under the direction of an accountant. During the Fall 2004 semester the senior students will travel to Saltillo, Mexico to visit the Monterrey Tec Campus. They will participate in accounting seminars with the Mexican students.

Goal # 4 - Demonstrate a proficiency in Information System Theory and Practice, and Systems Analysis and Design. As a result of the change in the accounting major to an accounting/information systems major, the performance of accounting students in IS courses will be assessed beginning 2004/2005.