

ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR

Master of Public Administration (MPAD)

Administrative or Educational Support Unit

Spring 2004

Assessment Period Covered

May 18, 2004

Date Submitted

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose Linkage: Institutional Mission/Goal(s) Reference:

Institutional Mission Reference: Texas A&M International University is committed to the preparation of students for leadership roles in their chosen profession and in an increasingly complex, culturally diverse state, national, and global society ... Through instruction, faculty and student research, and public service, Texas A&M International University is a strategic point of delivery for well-defined programs and services that improve the quality of life for citizens of the border region, the State of Texas, and national and international communities.

Administrative or Educational Support Unit Mission Statement:

College/University Goal(s) Supported: MPA graduates will have developed an understanding of the administration of public programs and have gained the skills needed to meet the needs of public employers and non-profit employers, particularly in the local community.

Intended Administrative Objectives:

1. Students completing the Public Administration program will understand the ethical, theoretical, and practical aspects of administering public programs in a democracy.
2. Graduates of the Public Administration program will have the skills and abilities needed by public agencies in a continually changing environment.

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Intended Administrative or Educational Support Objective:

NOTE: There should be one form C for each intended objective listed on form B. The intended unit objective should be restated in the box immediately below and the intended objective number entered in the blank space below

1. Students completing the Public Administration program will understand the ethical, theoretical, and practical aspects of administering public programs in a democracy.

First Means of Assessment for Objective Identified Above:

1a. Means of Unit Assessment & Criteria for Success:

Graduating MPA candidates will take a locally generated comprehensive examination that measures understanding of the ethical, theoretical, and practical aspects of administering public programs in a democracy. The examination will be team graded by MPA faculty, using a rubric ranging from 1 (poor) to 4 (excellent). The average score on the examination will not fall below 3 on the rubric.

1a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected:

There were no graduating students in Spring 2004, so there are no data for this means of assessment.

1a. Use of Results to Improve Unit Service:

Because there were no graduates, the program faculty cannot make recommendations at this time.

Second Means of Assessment for Objective Identified Above:

1b. Means of Unit Assessment & Criteria for Success

Subscales that include a selected aspect of the program will be developed for each cohort of graduates. In this assessment, the practical tool, statistical methods, will be chosen for assessment. The target subscale will be team graded by MPA faculty, using a rubric ranging from 1 (poor) to 4 (excellent). The average score on the subscale will not fall below 3 on the rubric. The score of each test-taker will be at least 3 on the rubric.

1b. Summary of Assessment Data Collected:

There were no graduating students in Spring 2004, so there are no data for this means of assessment.

1b. Use of Results to Improve Unit Service:

Because there were no graduates, the program faculty cannot make recommendations at this time.

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2. Graduates of the Public Administration program will have the skills and abilities needed by public agencies in a continually changing environment.

First Means of Assessment for Objective Identified Above:

2a. Means of Unit Assessment & Criteria for Success: Public Administration students completing the internship program (required for those with no experience in the public sector) will be evaluated by external internship managers. Skills and abilities will be rated on a Likert scale, ranging from 1 (very poor) to 5 (very good). The average score will be at least 3 on the scale.

2a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected

No data. There was no internship in Spring 2004.

Second Means of Assessment for Objective Identified Above:

2b. Means of Unit Assessment & Criteria for Success: Students completing the master's program will be surveyed to gather supporting data concerning how well the program provided them with skills needed in the public sector. The responses will be measured on a Likert scale ranging from 1 (very poor) to 5 (very well). The average score will be at least 3 on the scale.

2b. Summary of Assessment Data Collected:

There were no graduating students in Spring 2004, so there are no data for this means of assessment.

2b. Use of Results to Improve Unit Service:

Because there were no graduates, the program faculty cannot make recommendations at this time.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

SOURCE	LOCATION/Special Instructions