

MSA Data Results 2019-2021

Mission/Purpose

To advance the practice of Accounting by developing students into ethical practitioners through engagement in impactful, theoretical and practical learning experiences. The program satisfies the 150-hour educational requirement adopted by a number of states, including Texas, for certification and licensure as a CPA. Completion of the program also meets all other educational requirements of the state of Texas to sit the CPA exam.

The mission of the Masters of Science relates to the mission of the College of Business at Lamar University.

Learning Outcome 1: Critical Thinking

Apply critical thinking skills in analysis, issue identification, problem solving and decision making.

Measures

Learning Outcome 2: Professional Communications

Demonstrate proficiency in writing professional communications for tax, auditing and financial accounting issues.

| Measures | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Communication Assignments | Met | Met |
| MSA Student Exit Survey - Professional Communication Survey | Not Met | Met |
| Employers of intern survey | Met | Met |

Action Plan:

*In order to increase the response rate we will administer the survey in ACCT 5320, a course all MSA students are required to take at the end of their last semester of coursework. (2019)

*Professors will re-emphasize that students should utilize the writing center as a resource to improve written communication skills as well as the important components of written communication when documenting financial accounting, audit and tax issues.

*Currently, we administer a survey which considers all MSA goals to MSA students. We are currently using the feedback of the students to make sure it is consistent with our assessment results via the matrices. Any discrepancies as to their belief on how much progress they have made towards achieving the learning goals, versus our assessment as determined by their performance on assignments described in the measures and findings section, are considered when planning MSA curriculum, pedagogy, and other relevant initiatives and strategies.

Learning Outcome 3: Team Work

Participate as an effective team member in tasks that require research, analysis, planning and problem solving.

| Measures | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Teamwork Assignments | Met | Met |
| MSA Student Exit Survey - Teamwork Survey | Met | Met |
| Employers of interns survey | Met | Met |

Action Plan:

*In order to increase the response rate we will administer the survey in ACCT 5320, a course all MSA students are required to take at the end of their last semester of coursework. (2019)

*Teamwork building exercises will be administered each semester in the Advanced Auditing course. Increase survey response rates in order to properly analyze student responses.

*Currently, we administer a survey which considers all MSA goals to MSA students. We are currently using the feedback of the students to make sure it is consistent with our assessment results via the matrices. Any discrepancies as to their belief on how much progress they have made towards achieving the learning goals, versus our assessment as determined by their performance on assignments described in the measures and findings section, are considered when planning MSA curriculum, pedagogy, and other relevant initiatives and strategies.

Learning Outcome 4: Ethics and Professionalism

Demonstrate knowledge of ethics and professionalism and the ability to determine the ethical implications of certain tax, auditing, and financial reporting positions.

| Measures | 2019/2020 | 2020/2021 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Ethics and Professionalism Assignments | Met | Met |
| MSA Student Exit Survey - Ethics Survey | Met | Met |
| Employers of intern survey | Met | Met |

Action Plan:

*In order to increase the response rate we will administer the survey in ACCT 5320, a course all MSA

*In 2021 the objective related to stating authoritative literature was not met. Historically this objective has been met. We will continue to monitor this area. In fall '20, 71.43% of students met the objective. However, in spring '21 100% of students met the objective.

Learning Outcome 6: Information Technology

Students will demonstrate agility adapting to emerging technology and performing tasks that require skills in information technology, including data analytics.

| Measures | 2020/2021 |
|---|------------------|
| Written Assignments | Met |
| MSA Exit Student Survey Utilize Info technology Survey | Met |
| Employers of intern survey | Not Met |

Action Plan

*Employers evaluation of students' technology skills was below the target but has historically been met. We will continue to monitor. However, all students who did not receive a 4 or 5 on the evaluation forms received job offers from the employer.