

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

A Process to Assure Students Achieve

Michael Reed, Professor
Agricultural Economics, University of Kentucky



- ▶ Setting Goals and Objectives for Student Learning
- ▶ Designing and Developing Integrated Learning Plans
- ▶ Implementing those Learning Plans
- ▶ Assessing Whether the Implementation is Meeting the Goals and Objectives
- ▶ Adjusting the Design and Implementation to Improve the Process

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT DEFINED



- ▶ Determine Unit Mission, Vision, Goals
- ▶ Formulate a Strategic Plan
- ▶ Implementation Plan
- ▶ Assess Progress Toward Meeting the Plan

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT IS PART OF STRATEGIC PLANNING



- ▶ Talk with employers
- ▶ Visit with alumni
- ▶ Look at what other departments are doing

IDENTIFYING THE NEEDS

- ▶ Basic Education
- ▶ Disciplinary/Technical Skills
- ▶ Communication Skills
- ▶ Interpersonal Skills

NEEDS FOR OUR GRADUATES

- ▶ What skills do you want your graduates to possess?
- ▶ Make sure that these outcomes are measurable
- ▶ Find ways to assess where students are along a continuum

DETERMINE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES



- ▶ Disciplinary Knowledge
- ▶ Analytical Abilities
- ▶ Professional Communications
- ▶ Personal Responsibility

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS BS



- ▶ Articulate and motivate an economic problem by connecting theory to practice
- ▶ Understand related background literature
- ▶ Know micro-theory foundations
- ▶ Formulate specific, testable hypotheses that address the broader question/issue

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS MS/PHD SLIDE 1

- ▶ Compare, choose, and apply appropriate empirical methods
- ▶ Demonstrate proficiency in oral and written communications
- ▶ Demonstrate the ability to contribute to the analysis of economic issues/policies
- ▶ Contribute meaningfully to the applied economics literature

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AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS MS/PHD SLIDE 2

- ▶ Chart the courses that are offered
- ▶ See how they are related and move the student toward the Student Learning Outcomes
- ▶ Each course should be Core (Fundamental), Integrated, or Application
- ▶ Visualize how the courses work together to move the student forward

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CURRICULUM MAP

- ▶ Determine how you will measure/assess students
 - ▶ Written tests
 - ▶ Oral examinations
 - ▶ Homework
 - ▶ Job placements
 - ▶ Employer and alumni surveys
- ▶ Specify targets for the measures
- ▶ Formulate a rubric or scale that scores the students

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MEASURING THOSE OUTCOMES

- ▶ Interpret the results of the assessment
- ▶ Formulate an improvement plan to move toward the goals (what changes need to be made)
- ▶ Consider modifications to the student learning objectives or the measures

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IMPLEMENT A STRATEGY TO CLOSE THE GAPS

- ▶ There is a continuous cycle of assessment that goes from
 - ▶ Curriculum content and methods to
 - ▶ Curriculum implementation to
 - ▶ Curriculum assessment to
 - ▶ Curriculum improvement and back to
 - ▶ Curriculum content and methods

THE CYCLE CONTINUES