#### BARBARA JORDAN – MICKEY LELAND SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**Program: Master of Public Administration** 

The MPA Program has as its purpose the preparation of professionals for immediate upward mobility into professional careers in the public sector of the economy or for graduate study where the nature of the profession requires the master's degree as the entry criterion. Its greatest single asset lies in its potential to alleviate the shortage of professionally educated persons, especially those from minority groups, in local, state, national, and international public service.

#### Goal 1

For the period of 2008-2010, the first overall goal of the Master of Public Administration (MPA) program was to prepare students for careers in public administration by providing essential knowledge of public administration including development and international relations, human resources, and public policy at the state, national, and international level and in the nonprofit sector.

The specific student outcome in support of this goal is that MPA students will be able to demonstrate proficiency in analysis and research of public administration in various contexts and comprehend the nature and dynamics of public administration.

### Outcome 1.1 – Students will demonstrate proficiency in analysis and research of public administration

The metrics for this outcome include comprehensive exam scores and Capstone scores. Targets for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 were that 80% of students would pass the comprehensive exam.

### Findings (2008-2010)

For 2009-2010, the target was that 80% of students would pass the Capstone exam. The findings reflect the passage rate on the comprehensive exam and the passage rate of the Capstone course. In 2007-2008 and 2008-06, the pass rate on the comprehensive exam was 84% and 94% of students, respectively. In 2009-2010, 100% of students successfully completed the Capstone course.

### Action Plan Summary – 2007-2008

The action plan for this period focused on strengthening student knowledge in public administration theory. The plan included the following:

- Continue using the comprehensive exam as an assessment tool to help determine the level of student comprehension in public administration theory;
- Provide additional remedial support for student through faculty advising to address further understanding of public administration theory; and
- Discuss in faculty meetings student needs and how to address academic deficiencies as it relates to public administration theory.

#### Action Plan Summary - 2008-2009

- Discuss the prospect of a newer and more comprehensive assessment measure by offering a Capstone course that requires the application of theoretical concepts in public administration;
- Discuss how to address public administration theory as it relates to each specialization in the proposed Capstone course;
- Discuss shadowing as a possible component of the Capstone course to experience theory in practice;
- Continue to provide additional remedial support for students through faculty advising to address the needs for further understanding of theory in public administration; and
- Address research techniques as they relate to each specialization in the proposed Capstone course.

### Action Plan Summary - 2009-2010

- Implement the Capstone course format;
- Incorporate practicum and allow students to shadow public administrators and managers of non-governmental organizations to experience the application of theoretical concepts in practice;
- Maintain the balance of group and individual coursework with some focus on the application of theory in the Capstone course;

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#### BARBARA JORDAN – MICKEY LELAND SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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- Providing faculty support to discuss ways to maintain student success as it relates to public administration theory in the Capstone course;
- Provide additional remedial support for students through faculty advising;
- Developing Capstone Exit Survey; and
- Analyzing results from the Capstone Exit Survey.

#### Goal 2

The second goal of the Master of Public Administration (MPA) program was to prepare students for further graduate study where the nature of the degree requires a master's in public administration or related degree by providing essential knowledge of public administration at the state, national, and international level.

The specific student outcome in support of this goal is that MPA students will be able to demonstrate proficiency in theory, methodology, and be able to conduct research in public administration related to development and international administration, public policy, and human resources.

## Outcome 2.1 – Students will demonstrate proficiency in theory, methodology, and research in public administration

The metrics for this outcome include comprehensive exam scores and Capstone scores. Targets for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 were that 80% of students would pass the comprehensive exam.

### Findings (2008-2010)

For 2009-2010, the target was that 80% of students would pass the Capstone exam. The findings reflect the passage rate on the Comprehensive exam and the passage rate of the Capstone course. In 2007-2008 and 2008-09, the pass rate on the comprehensive exam was 84% and 94% of students, respectively. In 2009-2010, 100% of students successfully completed the Capstone course.

### Action Plan Summary – 2007-2008

- Provide more supplemental course work for students outside the classroom in research;
- Provide in-class opportunity for group discourse in research; and
- Provide more remedial support for student through faculty advising in research.

#### Action Plan Summary - 2008-2009

- Discuss the prospect of a newer and more comprehensive assessment measure by offering a Capstone course that requires the application of research skills;
- Discuss how to address research techniques as they relate to each specialization in the proposed capstone course; and
- Discuss shadowing as a possible component of the proposed capstone course to encourage the application of research tools and skill.

#### Action Plan Summary - 2009-2010

- Implement the Capstone course format;
- Incorporate a practicum component and allowing students to shadow public administrators and managers of non-governmental organizations to learn about the application of research in administration;
- Maintain the balance of group and individual coursework with some focus on individual and group research;
- Develop Capstone Exit Survey; and
- Analyze results of the Capstone Exit Survey.

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College/School: Public Affairs

Discipline/Program: Master of Public Administration

THECB CIP Code <u>44.0401.00</u>

	Student Learning		Target			Findings				
	Outcomes/									Reference
Goals	Objectives	Metric	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	Action Plan	Document
Goal 1	SLO 1.1	Comprehensive	80% of the	80% of the	80% of the	84% (16 out of	94% (17 out of	100% (17 out of	Based on 2007-08 Findings	R1.1
To prepare students	Students will be	exam scores	students will pass	students will	students will	19) of the	18) of the	17) students	Continue using the	Comprehensive
for careers in public	able to	2007-2008	the	pass the	pass the	students	students	successfully	comprehensive exam as an	exam reports
administration by	demonstrate	2008-2009	comprehensive	comprehensive	Capstone	passed the	passed the	completed the	assessment tool;	
providing essential	proficiency in		exam	exam		comprehensive	comprehensive	Capstone course	Provide additional remedial	R1.2
knowledge of public	analysis, and	Capstone				exam	exam		support for student through	Capstone Exam
administration	research of	scores							faculty advising; and	reports
including	public	2009-2010							Discuss in faculty meetings	
development and	administration in								student needs and how to	R1.3
international	various contexts,								address academic deficiencies as	Assessment
relations, human	and comprehend								it relates to public administration	Summary
resources, and	the nature and								theory.	
public policy at the	dynamics of								theory.	
state, national, and	public								Based on 2008-09 Findings	
international level	administration								Explore offering a Capstone	
and in the nonprofit									course;	
sector									Discuss how to address public	
									administration theory as it	
									relates to each specialization in	
									•	
									the proposed Capstone Course;	
									Discuss shadowing as a possible	
									component of the Capstone	
									course to experience theory in	
									practice;	
									Continue to provide additional	
									remedial support for students	
									through faculty advising; and	
									Address research techniques as	
									they relate to each specialization	
									in the proposed Capstone course.	

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College/School: Public Affairs

Discipline/Program: Master of Public Administration

THECB CIP Code <u>44.0401.00</u>

	Student Learning		Target			Findings				
	Outcomes/									Reference
Goals	Objectives	Metric	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	Action Plan	Document
Goal 1									Based on 2009-10 Findings	R1.1
To prepare students									Implement the Capstone course	Comprehensive
for careers in public									format;	exam reports
administration by									Incorporate practicum and allow	
providing essential									students to shadow public	R1.2
knowledge of public									administrators and managers of	Capstone Exam
administration									non-governmental organizations;	reports
including									Maintain the balance of group	
development and									and individual coursework with	R1.3
international									some focus on the application of	Assessment
relations, human									theory in the Capstone course;	Summary
resources, and									Provide faculty support to discuss	
public policy at the									ways to maintain student success	
state, national, and									as it relates to public	
international level									administration theory in the	
and in the nonprofit									Capstone course;	
sector									Provide additional remedial	
									support for students through	
									faculty advising;	
									Develop Capstone Exit Survey;	
									and	
									Analyze results from the	
									Capstone Exit Survey.	

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College/School: Public Affairs

Discipline/Program: Master of Public Administration

	Student Learning			Target			Findings			
	Outcomes/									Reference
Goals	Objectives	Metric	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	Action Plan	Document
Goal 2  To prepare students for further graduate study where the nature of the degree requires a master's in public administration or related degree by		Weth	2007-08	2008-03	2009-10	2007-08	2008-03	2009-10	Based on 2009-10 Findings Implement the Capstone course format; Incorporate a practicum component and allowing students to shadow public administrators and managers of non-governmental organizations	R1.1 Comprehensive exam reports  R1.1 Capstone exam reports
providing essential knowledge of public administration at the state, national, and international level									to learn about the application of research in administration; Maintain the balance of group and individual coursework with some focus on individual and group research; Develop Capstone Exit Survey; and Analyze results of the Capstone Exit Survey.	R1.3 Assessment Summary

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