



**UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO
MAYAGÜEZ CAMPUS
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**



ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSESSMENT PLAN

OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

For Academic Years 2026-2027 and 2027-2028

Approved by:

Faculty of the Department of Economics at an Ordinary Meeting on

Thursday, March 5, 2026

Prepared by:

Assessment Committee of the Department of Economics

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I. Introduction

This document is prepared with the purpose of establishing achievable and measurable objectives and goals in academic assessment activities, as well as administrative assessment, in the Department of Economics of the College of Arts and Sciences of the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus (UPRM).

UPRM and its four academic colleges have been committed since their founding to excellence in the teaching-learning process, in research activities across all branches of the natural and social sciences, in the promotion of the arts in all their expressions, and in the provision of excellent services, both to the academic community and to the wider community in which our institution operates. Improvement in each of these dimensions is an important goal in itself and fundamental to the full development of the public university.

In this context, the Department of Economics presents a realistic and concise assessment plan, through which it proposes to measure the extent to which academic and administrative objectives are achieved. The plan is framed within the Vision and Mission of the Department, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus (UPRM), as set forth in the following sections.

II. Purpose of Assessment

As in any assessment plan at our institution, the academic dimension undoubtedly plays the most important role in our activities. Ensuring that students acquire fundamental skills in economic analysis—at both the micro and macroeconomic levels—is a crucial objective for the Department of Economics. Although in our case there are no accreditation requirements for the economics profession, our department certainly collaborates decisively in achieving the accreditation objectives and periodic analyses of

the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) in general and UPRM in particular. It is important to note that this collaboration has been maintained despite the high need to hire full-time faculty that our departmental unit faces.

In this sense, excellent academic training and the acquisition of knowledge in the discipline of economic sciences, including students who specialize in Economics through the completion of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics degree or the Minor Concentration in Economics, and the student population served through service courses, constitute our essential goal. In the case of the Minor Concentration in Economics, it was created under Certification No. 15-93 by the Academic Senate of UPRM on Tuesday, December 15, 2015. Said Certification indicates the specific objectives of the Concentration, as well as its Assessment Plan.

On the other hand, the administrative function, in an increasingly resource-scarce context—in terms of fiscal resources and therefore personnel, materials, equipment, and other assets—has become an endeavor that faces formidable challenges. Maintaining the levels of administrative excellence that have characterized UPRM for many decades, taking into account the deep economic and fiscal crisis that the country has been experiencing since the second quarter of 2006, has not been an easy task. Measuring, through a rigorous administrative assessment exercise, the achievements in this area constitutes the second purpose of the plan.

III. Vision of UPRM and the College of Arts and Sciences

The vision of UPRM is:

“To be a leading institution in higher education and research, transforming society through the pursuit of knowledge, in an environment of ethics, justice, and peace.”¹

The vision of the College of Arts and Sciences is:

“To be a leading faculty, recognized for its high standards, that actively contributes to the social and economic development of the local and international community through the pursuit and implementation of new knowledge.”²

IV. Vision of the Department of Economics

The Vision of the Department of Economics is:

“To be an advanced department in higher education and research, distinguished internationally for its excellence in the training of its graduates, that dynamically contributes to social and economic development, transforming society through the pursuit of knowledge, in an environment of ethics, justice, and peace.”³

¹ Source: UPRM, Undergraduate Catalog 2025-2026, page 2. Available at <https://www.uprm.edu/asuntosacademicos/catalogos-academicos/>

² UPRM, Undergraduate Catalog 2025-2026, page 125. Available at <https://www.uprm.edu/asuntosacademicos/catalogos-academicos/> and <https://www.uprm.edu/arc/mision-y-vision/>

³ The Vision of the Department of Economics was revised and approved at an ordinary meeting of the faculty of the Department of Economics held on Thursday, February 8, 2024 (Minutes 23-24-04).

V. Mission of UPRM and the College of Arts and Sciences

The mission of UPRM is:

“To provide excellent service to Puerto Rico and the world.

Educating citizens who are educated, cultured, capable of thinking critically and professionally prepared in the fields of agricultural sciences, engineering, arts, sciences, and business administration, so that they may contribute to educational, cultural, social, technological, and economic development.

Carrying out creative, research, and service work that addresses the needs of society and disseminating the results of these activities so that they are accessible to all.

Providing our students with the skills and sensitivity necessary to effectively address the problems we face and to be an example of the values and attitudes that should prevail in a democratic society that values and respects diversity.”⁴

The mission of the College of Arts and Sciences is:

To provide excellent service to Puerto Rico and the world:

Educating citizens who are educated, cultured, capable of thinking critically and professionally prepared in the arts and sciences, so that they may contribute to educational, cultural, social, technological, and economic development.

Carrying out creative, research, and service work that addresses the needs of society and disseminating the results of these activities so that they are accessible to all.

⁴ UPRM, Undergraduate Catalog 2025-2026, page 2. Available at <https://www.uprm.edu/asuntosacademicos/catalogos-academicos>

Providing our students with the skills and sensitivity necessary to effectively address the problems we face and to be an example of the values and attitudes that should prevail in a democratic society that values and respects diversity.⁵

VI. Mission of the Department of Economics

The Mission of the Department of Economics is:

“To provide excellent service in education:

- Collaborating in the education of citizens who are educated, cultured, capable of thinking critically and professionally prepared in the economic discipline, so that they may contribute to educational, cultural, social, technological, and economic development.
- Carrying out creative, research, and service work that addresses the needs of society and disseminating the results of these activities so that they are accessible to all.
- Providing our students with the skills and sensitivity necessary to effectively address the problems we face and to be an example of civics built on education that should prevail in a democratic system that values and respects diversity.”⁶

⁵ UPRM, Undergraduate Catalog 2025-2026, page 125. Available at <https://www.uprm.edu/asuntosacademicos/catalogos-academicos/> and <https://www.uprm.edu/arci/mision-y-vision/>

⁶ The Mission of the Department of Economics was revised and approved at an ordinary meeting of the faculty of the Department of Economics held on Thursday, February 8, 2024 (Minutes 23-24-04).

VII. Expected Student Learning Outcomes of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program

The Expected Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program of the Department of Economics at UPRM are listed below:⁷

1. Knows the theoretical tools and research techniques.
2. Can critically and logically identify and analyze socioeconomic problems, conduct empirical research, and propose solutions to said problems.
3. Can identify value judgments and apply economic reasoning based on objective and rational analysis.
4. Possesses technical and creative skills in the business and administrative fields and can therefore solve problems in these areas.
5. Is prepared to integrate ethical principles and social values into professional and personal performance.
6. Possesses interpersonal and teamwork skills and the ability to present knowledge verbally and in writing in Spanish and English.
7. Possesses skills in mathematical reasoning and quantitative analysis.
8. Possesses skills in the use of statistical software and knowledge of information technology.

⁷ The Expected Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program were revised and approved at an ordinary meeting of the faculty of the Department of Economics held on Thursday, March 7, 2024 (Minutes 23-24-05).

VIII. Expected Program Learning Outcomes of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program

The Expected Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program are listed below:⁸

The Expected Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program were revised and approved at an ordinary meeting of the faculty of the Department of Economics held on Thursday, March 7, 2024 (Minutes 23-24-05).

1. To provide students with the theoretical and practical tools that allow them to understand and analyze the economic, social, and international environment, so that they can make rational decisions and propose solutions to socioeconomic problems.
2. To prepare them to develop their communication and teamwork skills, with social and ethical awareness, so that they achieve comprehensive development as human beings.
3. To provide them with the tools to integrate information technology into economic analysis.
4. To prepare them to perform professionally in their areas of work.
5. To motivate them to continue graduate studies in economics or related areas.
6. To encourage continuous learning, as part of their human, intellectual, and professional development.

⁸ The Expected Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program were revised and approved at an ordinary meeting of the faculty of the Department of Economics held on Thursday, March 7, 2024 (Minutes 23-24-05).

IX. Alignment between Expected Student Learning Outcomes of UPRM, the College of Arts and Sciences Faculty, and the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program

A. Alignment between UPRM and College of Arts and Sciences Expected Student Learning Outcomes

UPRM	COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Expected General Education Learning Outcomes	Expected Faculty Learning Outcomes
1. Demonstrates purposeful and continuous learning.	14. Engages in continuous and multi/disciplinary learning.
2. Demonstrates creative and critical thinking.	2. Think critically.
3. Communicates effectively.	1. Communicate effectively orally and in writing, in Spanish and English, particularly in the area of concentration.
4. Identifies, studies, and proposes solutions to problems; transforms knowledge into action.	3. Deepen knowledge and skills related to the discipline and apply them to the identification and solution of problems.
5. Applies mathematical, scientific, and technological skills.	4. Apply mathematical reasoning, the scientific method, research designs, and information technologies.
6. Applies interpretive and integration skills.	4. Apply mathematical reasoning, the scientific method, research designs, and information technologies.
7. Relates global contexts and issues of importance to Puerto Rico.	7. Knows Puerto Rican heritage and culture. 9. Understand contemporary social, political, and economic problems in a local and global context.
8. Demonstrates moral autonomy, has a sense of human well-being, and understands ethical conduct.	5. Recognize the ethical implications of different actions and integrate ethical standards or codes in decision-making and implementation.
9. Practices civic virtues.	8. Appreciate the essential values of a democratic society and the role of the individual in it. 12. Commit to improving quality of life at both personal and community levels.
10. Values diversity.	10. Demonstrate respect for human diversity in all its dimensions. 6. Demonstrate respect for nature and the environment, particularly in Puerto Rico. 11. Develop appreciation for the humanities, arts, and sciences. 13. Work as a team.

B. Alignment between UPRM Expected Learning Outcomes and Expected Student Learning Outcomes of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program.⁹

UPRM	BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ECONOMICS STUDENT
Expected General Education Learning Outcomes	Expected Student Learning Outcomes
1. Demonstrates purposeful and continuous learning.	1. Knows the theoretical tools and research techniques.
2. Demonstrates creative and critical thinking.	2. Can critically and logically identify and analyze socioeconomic problems, conduct empirical research, and propose solutions to said problems. 3. Can identify value judgments and apply economic reasoning based on objective and rational analysis.
3. Communicates effectively.	6. Possesses interpersonal and teamwork skills and the ability to present knowledge verbally and in writing in Spanish and English.
4. Identifies, studies, and proposes solutions to problems; transforms knowledge into action.	2. Can critically and logically identify and analyze socioeconomic problems, conduct empirical research, and propose solutions to said problems. 4. Possesses technical and creative skills in the business and administrative fields and can therefore solve problems in these areas.
5. Applies mathematical, scientific, and technological skills.	4. Possesses technical and creative skills in the business and administrative fields. 7. Possesses skills in mathematical reasoning and quantitative analysis. 8. Possesses skills in the use of statistical software and knowledge of information technology.
6. Applies interpretive and integration skills.	4. Possesses technical and creative skills in the business and administrative fields. 7. Possesses skills in mathematical reasoning and quantitative analysis. 8. Possesses skills in the use of statistical software and knowledge of information technology.
7. Relates global contexts and issues of importance to Puerto Rico.	2. Can critically and logically identify and analyze socioeconomic problems, conduct empirical research, and propose solutions to said problems.
8. Demonstrates moral autonomy, has a sense of human well-being, and understands ethical conduct.	5. Is prepared to integrate ethical principles and social values into professional and personal performance.
9. Practices civic virtues.	5. Is prepared to integrate ethical principles and social values into professional and personal performance.
10. Values diversity.	5. Is prepared to integrate ethical principles and social values into professional and personal performance.

⁹ The alignment of UPRM general education expected learning outcomes and the expected student learning outcomes of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program was revised and approved at an ordinary meeting of the faculty of the Department of Economics held on Thursday, March 6, 2025 (Minutes 24-25-06).

C. Alignment between College of Arts and Sciences Expected Faculty Learning Outcomes and Expected Student Learning Outcomes of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program¹⁰

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES	BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ECONOMICS STUDENT
Expected Faculty Learning Outcomes	Expected Student Learning Outcomes
1. Communicate effectively orally and in writing, in Spanish and English, particularly in the area of concentration.	6. Possesses interpersonal and teamwork skills and the ability to present knowledge verbally and in writing in Spanish and English.
2. Think critically.	3. Can identify value judgments and apply economic reasoning based on objective and rational analysis.
3. Deepen knowledge and skills related to the discipline and apply them to the identification and solution of problems.	2. Can critically and logically identify and analyze socioeconomic problems, conduct empirical research, and propose solutions to said problems.
4. Apply mathematical reasoning, the scientific method, research designs, and information technologies.	1. Knows the theoretical tools and research techniques. 7. Possesses skills in mathematical reasoning and quantitative analysis. 8. Possesses skills in the use of statistical software and knowledge of information technology.
5. Recognize the ethical implications of different actions and integrate ethical standards or codes in decision-making and implementation.	5. Is prepared to integrate ethical principles and social values into professional and personal performance.
6. Demonstrate respect for nature and the environment, particularly in Puerto Rico.	
7. Knows Puerto Rican heritage and culture.	
8. Appreciate the essential values of a democratic society and the role of the individual in it.	
9. Understand contemporary social, political, and economic problems in a local and global context.	2. Can critically and logically identify and analyze socioeconomic problems, conduct empirical research, and propose solutions to said problems.
10. Demonstrate respect for human diversity in all its dimensions.	5. Is prepared to integrate ethical principles and social values into professional and personal performance.
11. Develop appreciation for the humanities, arts, and sciences.	
12. Commit to improving quality of life at both personal and community levels.	
13. Work as a team.	4. Possesses interpersonal and teamwork skills and the ability to present knowledge verbally and in writing in Spanish and English.
14. Engages in continuous and multi/disciplinary learning.	

¹⁰ The alignment of the expected learning outcomes of the College of Arts and Sciences faculty of UPRM and the expected student learning outcomes of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program was revised and approved at an ordinary meeting of the faculty of the Department of Economics held on Thursday, March 6, 2025 (Minutes 24-25-06).

X. Profile of the Minor Concentration in Economics Student

The Minor Concentration in Economics allows students to:

1. Gain a solid foundation to continue graduate studies in economics or business administration.
2. Increase their social and business productivity capacity.
3. Enhance their attractiveness in the labor market.

XI. Specific Objectives of the Minor Concentration in Economics

As stipulated in Certification No. 15-93 of the Academic Senate of UPRM, the specific objectives of the Minor Concentration in Economics are defined taking into account the characteristics and evolution of socioeconomic activity developed in a context of rapid transformation and demands for quality, competitiveness, and sustainability, and increasing internationalization. Upon completing the minor concentration, students should be able to:

1. Recognize the two economic dimensions: the microeconomic and the macroeconomic. Both dimensions relate to the decision-making of the agents involved in economic activities: consumers of goods and services or demand, firms in the productive sector or supply, and the interrelationships and interactions between supply and demand and market structure.
2. Apply the method of economic analysis to address the essential aspects that affect economic reality.
3. Understand economic principles and identify their different dimensions, so as to develop the capacity to design, plan, and evaluate economic policies that allow for the efficient use of resources, in accordance with the principles of economic sustainability.

4. Analyze the feasibility of projects that propose the development of competitive advantages.

XII. Assessment Plan Schedule: 2026-2027 through 2027-2028

The Assessment Plan of the Department of Economics has been designed to measure, in the first place, the extent to which basic and advanced knowledge in the economic sciences is successfully conveyed to a student body characterized by its heterogeneous composition, as well as its academic and professional objectives. This is the main objective of the academic dimension of the Plan, as detailed in the section below.

A. Academic Assessment of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program

The following table details the academic assessment tools for the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program, as well as the academic periods in which tasks will be carried out and the faculty responsible.

Expected Program Learning Outcomes	Course	Assessment Responsible Personnel	Assessment Instrument	Threshold	Assessment Period	
					First Semester	Second Semester
To provide students with the theoretical and practical tools that allow them to understand and analyze the economic, social, and international environment, so that they can make rational decisions and propose solutions to	ECON 3092: Macroeconomic Theory	Department Director	Exit Survey	70% of students will respond that they are confident in their ability to analyze and propose solutions to socioeconomic problems.	N/A	May

socioeconomic problems.						
To prepare them to develop their communication and teamwork skills, with social and ethical awareness, so that they achieve comprehensive development as human beings.	ECON 4392 Research Methods in Economics II	Department Director	Exit Survey	70% of students will respond that they are confident in their communication and teamwork competencies.	N/A	May
To provide them with the tools to integrate information technology into economic analysis.	ECON 4017 Econometrics	Department Director	Exit Survey	70% of students will respond that they are confident in their knowledge of technical skills.	N/A	May
To prepare them to perform professionally in their areas of work.	ECON 4392 Research Methods in Economics II	Department Director	Exit Survey	70% of students will respond that they are confident in their abilities to meet challenges in business or work environments.	N/A	May
To motivate them to continue graduate studies in economics or related areas.	ECON 4392 Research Methods in Economics II	Department Director	Exit Survey	At least 50% of students will identify graduate studies in economics or a related field as an option to pursue after their undergraduate studies.	N/A	May

To encourage continuous learning, as part of their human, intellectual, and professional development.	ECON 4392 Research Methods in Economics II	Department Director	Exit Survey	At least 50% of students will consider that their economics studies have led them to raise questions they would like to answer through further study.	N/A	May
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B. Academic Assessment of the Minor Concentration in Economics ¹¹

The Assessment Plan for the Minor Concentration in Economics will include, at a minimum, the following information:

1. Number of students enrolled in the minor concentration.
2. Student evaluations and analysis thereof.
3. Courses completed and grades obtained.
4. Number of students who complete the minor concentration per academic year.
5. Professional achievements of students who graduated from the minor concentration.
6. Number of students who continued studies in tourism and/or economics at the graduate level.
7. Statistics on areas of emphasis among electives taken by minor concentration students.

The Assessment Plan will be presented by the Coordinator to the Faculty of the Department of Economics every two years, where academic planning will also be proposed and revisions to the minor concentration will be considered, if deemed meritorious.

¹¹ As set forth in Certification No. 15-93 of the Academic Senate of UPRM.

Operational Objective	Instrument	How to measure success	Person(s) responsible for implementation	Assessment Schedule
Generate stable demand for the minor concentration	Record of students admitted to the minor concentration	10 students admitted to the Minor Concentration during the first three years of implementation with an upward trend in subsequent years.	Director, Associate Director of the Department, Academic Advisor, Minor Concentration Coordinator	Annual
High retention rate	Proportion of students completing the minor concentration within three years	At least 65% of students entering the Minor Concentration will have completed it upon graduating with a bachelor's degree.	Director, Associate Director, Academic Advisor of the Department, Minor Concentration Coordinator	Annual
Impact on graduates	Satisfaction survey for students completing the minor concentration	There will be an upward trend in graduates who would recommend the Minor Concentration to another student.	Academic Advisor, Minor Concentration Coordinator	Annual
	Record of graduates who continue graduate studies in related fields	At least 50% of graduates continue graduate studies in the discipline.	Academic Advisor, Minor Concentration Coordinator	Biennial
	Effectiveness survey	At least 65% of graduates consider the minor concentration to have been effective as a professional improvement instrument in their discipline.	Academic Advisor, Minor Concentration Coordinator	Biennial

C. Administrative Assessment of the Department of Economics

In the administrative dimension, the Assessment Plan pursues two basic objectives: first, to measure, through the use of an Administrative Assessment questionnaire, the effectiveness of the leadership of the Department of Economics in carrying out its managerial functions. It should be noted that the academic/administrative management task has fallen for several years on a single person—the Department Director—who, in addition to leading the unit and administering personnel matters, is responsible for all tasks related to academic advising, preparation of academic schedules for faculty, and coordination of the registration process from beginning to end each semester of the academic year and during the summer period. In this regard, the administrative assessment questionnaire aims to capture all of the aforementioned aspects and measure the performance of the official who carries them out. The following table also shows other assessment tools in the administrative phase.

Administrative Assessment Tools	Period and Responsible Person(s)
Administrative Assessment Questionnaire.	During the second semester, the Assessment Committee administers it and the faculty completes the questionnaire.
Participation in Departmental Meetings.	At each Departmental Meeting, faculty has the opportunity to ask about administrative matters.
Participation in Departmental Activities.	After each Departmental Activity (conferences, seminars, and others), administrative performance is evaluated.
Starting in Academic Year 2015-2016, the questionnaire prepared by the Assessment Committee of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences was adopted.	

XIII. Validity of the Assessment Plan

This plan will be developed over the next two academic years, beginning in the first semester of 2026-2027 and concluding in the second semester of 2027-2028. Therefore, this plan must be reviewed in the Second Semester of Academic Year 2027-2028 to maintain the continuity of academic and administrative assessment activities and work.