Minutes of Research Methods Assessment Committee Meeting

February 27, 2012

Present: Erika Hoff, David Lewkowicz, David Wolgin

Phone participants: Kathy Hughes, Nancy Jones

The Committee reviewed three years of outcome data covering 2008-2010. During this period, more than 70% of the students demonstrated understanding of items assessing each outcome with the exception of Outcome 3 (Limitations of Measurement Scales), for which 66% of the students demonstrated mastery. In general terms, these results are consistent with the results of a previous review covering 2005-2009. The Committee then reviewed specific items for which mastery was below 70% for at least two of the three years. It was decided that no corrective action would be taken at this time because scores were often in the 60-70% range.

The Committee then discussed standardizing the assessment questions for all instructors teaching the course. It was decided that four questions would be selected from the pool for each outcome and embedded in exams. The Committee will complete selection by the end of the Spring 2012 semester and implement the procedure beginning with the Fall 2012 semester.