BUSINESS ONLINE PROGRAM ASSESSMENT POSTER, 2018-19

College of Business, Economics, and Computing

LEARNING GOAL ASSESSED

– Reasoned Judgement –

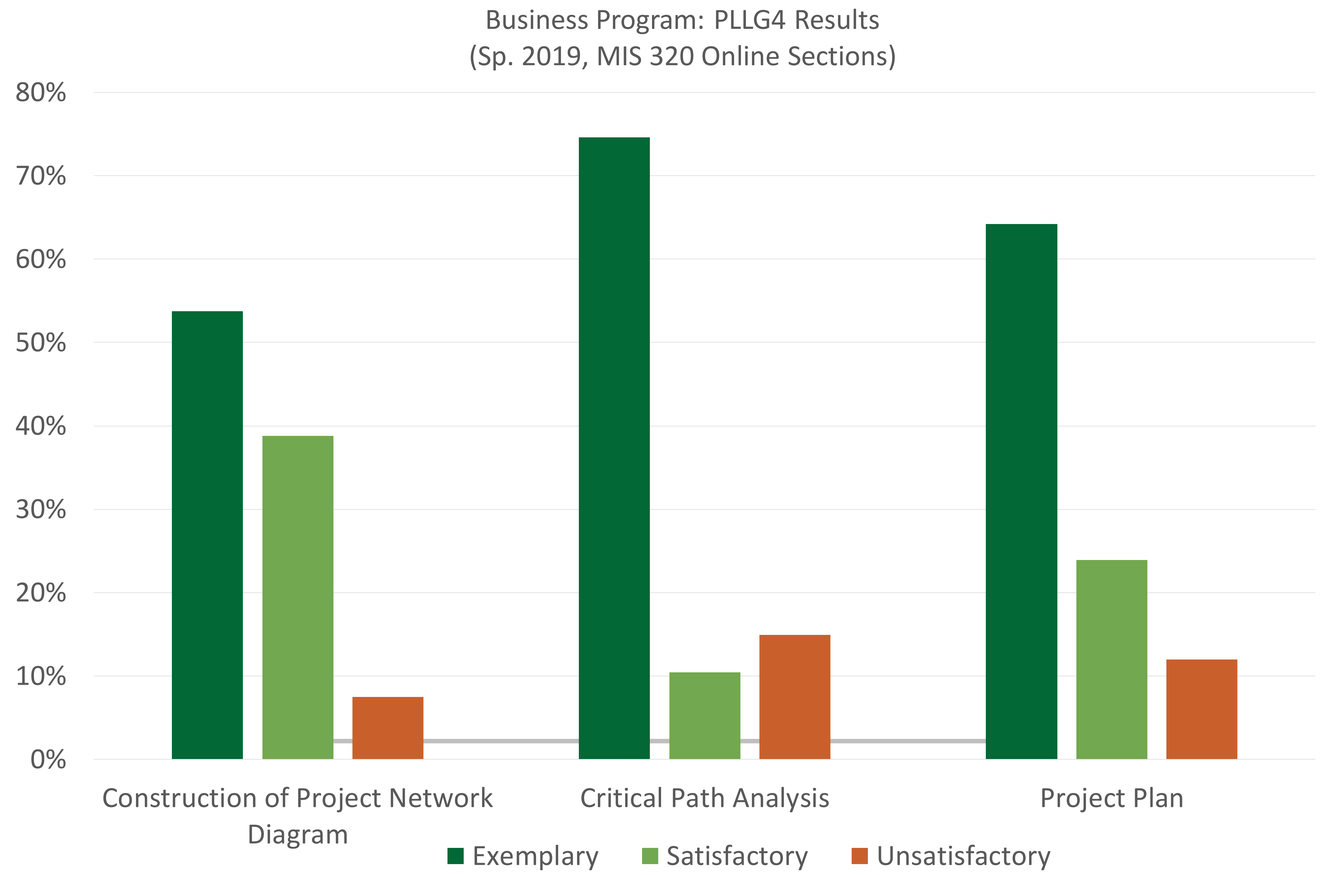
Program Outcome Assessed: PLLG 4: Understand project management principles and apply these principles to a practical situation.

OVERVIEW AND METHODS

This assessment report outlines the results for students enrolled in the online sections of Business Management program. Specifically, this report reviews the performance of students for business program level learning goal #4.

Students in the two online sections of MIS 320 were given an assignment with three questions (See Appendix 1 for the complete assignment). The first question asked students to consider a hypothetical project with tasks; for this project, students need to apply concepts they learned in the class, construct a network diagram in both AoA (Activity-on-Arrow) and AoN (Activity-on-Node) format. The second question asked students to complete an AoN diagram and compute the earliest and latest times, find the critical path, and arrive at slacks and duration. For the third question, students need to consider a practical scenario and construct a project plan for the project; the project plan can be depicted through the work breakdown structure (WBS). To construct WBS, students need to arrive at the tasks for the project, their dependencies, durations, and various dates. Further, students are required to use a specific tool Microsoft Project or Excel to construct WBS.

Student performance was evaluated using a rubric (Appendix 2 presents the rubric for this assignment) with three dimensions: Construction of Project Network Diagram, Critical Path Analysis, and Project Plan. The instructor scored the assignments and assigned students into different categories: Exemplary, Satisfactory, Unsatisfactory. The rubric and the assignment were designed by the department's MIS faculty in the past.



	Exemplary	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
Construction of Project Network Diagram	36	26	5	67
Critical Path Analysis	50	7	10	67
Project Plan	43	16	8	67

CONCLUSIONS

Overall, student performance in various rubric dimensions is good. The unsatisfactory rates in various rubric dimensions ranged from 7% to 17%. "Critical path" and "Project plan" each have higher unsatisfactory rates compared to construction of the network diagram. Critical path analysis is difficult for student to comprehend and apply and this may be the reason why the unsatisfactory rates are higher. Similarly, project plan requires students to carefully arrive at tasks, their durations and dependencies for the project.

This homework is typically the last homework students complete before the finals, and it is a hectic part of the semester with significant workload form multiple classes for students; as a result, it is unclear how much time some students spend on this homework assignment. Some actionable items include providing additional assistance for students via video office hours for this specific learning goal to help students improve their performance. Another item is to provide (i) more coverage for critical path and related concepts, and (ii) better instructions for using tools such as Microsoft Project.

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