**Economics Department Assessment Plan, 2012-2013**

Jerry T. Amoloza

**East Central College**

**Assessment Reporting: Course/Curriculum**

Division: Business, Education, Social Science and Technology

Course/Curriculum Name: Principles of Macroeconomics

**At the end of this course the student will be able to:**

1. Measure a nation’s income, production, unemployment, inflation and growth.
2. Understand the monetary and financial system.
3. Illustrate the influence of monetary policy and fiscal policy on economy with aggregate demand and aggregate supply.
4. Understand some basic concepts of open economics (international economics).

**Means of Assessment:**

1. Pre-test/Post-test

2. Exams

3. Project

4. CAAP

**Defined/Established Criteria:**

Students will have achieved 80% of program goals and objectives

**Data Analysis:**

A 30 question pre-test/post-test developed will be administered to students in the Principles of Macroeconomics course. The pre-test will be administered during the first week of the Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 semesters, and the post-test will be administered during the last week of classes of each semester.

Whenever possible a statistical analysis of the data will be employed to test if the difference between the outcomes of the pre-evaluation test and post-evaluation test is significant. Also, some outcomes will be shown in the format shown below.

The results of the Fall 2012 pre-test/post-test are below.

* Average score increased from XXX to XXX
* Median score increased from XXX to XXX
* Highest score increased from XXX to XXX
* Lowest score increased from XXX to XXX

The results of the Spring 2013 pre-test/post-test are below.

* Average score increased from XXX to XXX
* Median score increased from XXX to XXX
* Highest score increased from XXX to XXX
* Lowest score remained from XXX to XXX

As exams determine the level of understanding of students about the subject matter the proportion of those getting at least a B in the course (80%) will be noted.

The project is about the computation of consumer price index for the local area. The objective is for the students to know what a price index means and how it is computed so they can relate to what they read in newspapers and hear from television/radio about this economic measure of the cost of living. They collect information on prices of consumer goods at the start of the semester and again at the end of the semester from the local grocery stores and using the data create a consumer price index. Using the indices they also determine the local inflation rate. Getting a good grade in the project can attest to the students’ understanding of the price index and inflation determination.

The CAAP exam is administered by the same agency administering the high school ACT as part of the college wide exam to assess the level of critical thinking the students gained at ECC. Macroeconomics is one of the many course selected which involved critical thinking for such a test. Individual scores will be available at the Testing Center.