Expected Outcome 1: Critique Arguments
When they complete this degree program, students will be able to critique arguments in public administration and political science.

Assessment Method 1: MPA Student Survey
Assessment Method Description
A survey of MPA students was conducted which contained this question: "In my public administration courses, I learned about a wide variety of administrative theories and approaches to analyzing public management issues."

Findings
Of the 14 students surveyed, 100 percent answered that they had improved their skills in this area.

How did you use findings for improvement?
Professors began to put more stress on ongoing debates in public administration in several of their classes to better equip students to evaluate and critique arguments.

Additional Comments

Expected Outcome 2: Understanding Theories/Analytical and Critical Reading
When they complete this degree program, students will be able to understand and apply major theories in the public administration literature.

Assessment Method 1: Comprehensive Exam
Assessment Method Description
All MPA students take a comprehensive exam which consists of broad
essay questions that require students to apply theoretical knowledge from his or her coursework.

**Findings**
Three core MPA faculty graded these exams and found that 12 of the 14 graduate students who took the exam understood and could discuss public administration theories relevant to the policy problems raised in the questions. The other two were able to do after being given a chance to retake the exam.

**How did you use findings for improvement?**
Seeing how well most students did in reaching this expected outcome, the faculty began to place more stress on applying theoretical materials to "real world" situations in their classes.

**Additional Comments**