Core Knowledge Test

Fall 2013

During the fall 2013 semester faculty created a question bank with questions from all but two of the core courses. Faculty individually and collectively reviewed the questions for readability, validity and reliability. The CKT was set up in Moodle and scheduled for the end of the semester. The pilot test was set up with 13 compulsory questions (from RTM202, 204, and 278) and 50 randomly selected questions (5 questions each from RTM 300, 302, 303, 304, and 403). The decision was taken to pilot the CKT with students enrolled in RTM494C Supervised Internship who would be outgoing students.

The test had 63 questions and was completed by 24 students. The test takers pointed out questions with spelling and grammar errors and comprehension issues. Nineteen students scored at least 50% on the test, while 2 students scored 70% or higher.

It is worthy to note that students were made aware of the test in the second month of the semester and knew that they would be participating in a pilot that would have no bearing on their completion of the degree.

During the spring 2014 semester the question bank will be refined and expanded with due consideration to the comments made by the students. The test data analysis strategy will also be finalised. Majors will be informed of the addition of the CKT as a component of their program. It is anticipated that the full version of the test will be taken by incoming and graduating students in the Fall 2014 semester and each subsequent semester to provide ongoing pre and posttest assessment.