Assessing the Efficacy of the MBA Foundation Course In Accounting
Upon acceptance into the MBA program, students assigned to one of two groups.
- The Foundation course
- The core or option classes
Foundation class in Accounting

- Part of a 12 unit class combining foundations in
  - Accounting and Finance
  - Strategy and management
  - Statistics and operations management

The Accounting section covers financial and managerial accounting topics and basic concepts of finance
Assessment Procedure

- Students divided into Foundation and non-Foundation
- Case study and final exam scores used in the MBA core accounting class are averaged for each group
- Comparison of the average scores
- Comparisons are available across three years
Assessment of the Efficacy of the Foundation Course

The efficacy of the Foundation class is tested by seeing if the average scores for the Foundation students is equal or better than the non-Foundation students.
Spring 2015

Average score differential: 3.135 points

In favor of Foundation students across all assignments.
For two cases, the Foundation group was less the non-Foundation group. All others, the Foundation group had scores higher than the Non-Foundation group.
Two sections:

Average Difference:  
Section 1: 3.26  
Section 2: 4.12  

Scores are greater or equal for the Foundation students across all 5 assignments
Is the Foundation course doing its job?

- For overall scores, Foundation student scores, on average were better than non-Foundation student scores.

- Based on these comparisons, the Foundation course in Accounting is effective in providing adequate accounting knowledge for MBA students.
Extensions of Assessment

- Identify those cases which concern topics addressed in the Foundation class
- Compare averages on those cases relative to those cases where topics were not directly addressed in the Foundation class
- Provides a closer comparison of the efficacy of the Foundation class