David Fox <dfox.mba@auaf.edu.af>

My thoughts, QMB

Patrick K. Asea <pasea@auaf.edu.af>   Thu, Nov 13, 2014 at 2:08 PM
To: David Fox <dfox.mba@auaf.edu.af>

Thanks for the feedback. Very useful.

On Thu, Nov 13, 2014 at 1:25 PM, David Fox <dfox.mba@auaf.edu.af> wrote:

Dear Prof. Asea,

I wanted to take a moment to share my thoughts on QMB, since the atmosphere in the class is getting rather tense about this subject.

I know you asked the whole class yesterday about what the problem was with the mid-term, and a couple of voices spoke up and said that the problem was a 'lack of time.'

Personally, I would have to disagree with this assessment. If you know how to do the problems, then that test would take maybe an hour, hour and half to complete. I was the first one to leave, since the problems that were covered in the practice exam (approximately 60% of the actual test) were very easy for me.

My experience preparing for this test was doing the practice problems multiple times over the course of several days. This helped me greatly in internalizing the material and recognizing how the formulas and steps could be applied to similar situations. I am not saying that it was rote memorization, but the act of completing practice problems is critical in gaining proficiency in the practical application of this mathematical knowledge.

I read all the chapters covered by test in the textbook, and I reviewed all the PowerPoint presentations, but it was only when I was able to calmly and quietly go over the practice test that the material started to become real and applicable to me.

What I am requesting for the final test is that all the material on the final test be covered in the practice test. As I mentioned at the beginning of this message, Approximately 40% of the material on the mid-term was not covered in the practice exam. While you could argue that MBA candidates should be prepared for anything, I would argue instead that it is more fair if we are simply given the resources to drill, and thereby internalize, all of these formulas and their real-world applications.

If the final exam has 'Got you!' problems that are not covered by the practice exam, and as a result students fail the course, I can only imagine that complaints regarding the course will become more vocal and organized.

Sincerely,

David