



A cost analysis of instruction at Montana State University
by Stephen Ross Hample

A dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of DOCTOR OF
EDUCATION

Montana State University

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Abstract:

The problem of this study was to develop a method of cost analysis which would provide answers to the following questions: (1) What are the instructional costs per quarter for a full-time equivalent (FTE) student in each academic major at the baccalaureate, master's and doctoral levels? and (2) What are the total instructional costs per student for the baccalaureate, master's and doctoral degrees in each academic major? Instructional costs and student credit hour production for the 1972-1973 Fiscal Year at Montana State University were examined.

Major attention was focused upon faculty salaries which were considered in relation to credits taught by individual faculty members.

The production of student credit hours was also used as a basis for allocating indirect instructional costs. The results of this first portion of the study were defined to be "department oriented" instructional costs.

A second phase of the study utilized an Induced Course Load Matrix (ICLM) computer program to obtain average course loads for students in various majors and student levels. These average course loads, in terms of credits, were then combined with the "department oriented costs" per credit to obtain what were defined as "student major oriented costs" per FTE student per quarter. Division of these costs, per quarter by an average FTE course load per quarter yielded the "student major oriented" costs per student credit hour.

The final phase of the study combined academic program lengths, in terms of credits, with the "student major oriented" costs to obtain the average instructional cost per baccalaureate, master's and doctoral degree granted in each academic major at Montana State University.

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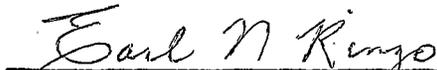
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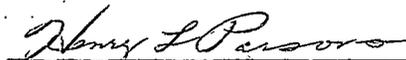
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