COURSE SYLLABUS

Auditing Performance Outcomes Course

Develop advanced skills to evaluate program results and assess the impact of agency initiatives using structured audit and evaluation methodologies.

Group classes (Live Online) and onsite training are available for this course. For more information, email onsite@graduateschool.edu or visit: https://sdfm.graduateschool.edu/courses/auditing-performance-outcomes



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Course Outline

Module 1: Basics in Auditing Outcomes

- Understanding the objectives of impact audits
- Distinguishing between traditional performance audits and impact audits
- Identifying elements of impact audit findings
- Selecting appropriate performance measures for impact audits

Module 2: Preparing for an Impact Audit

- Mapping programs to understand operations and outcomes
- Gathering essential background information for audit preparation
- Assessing target problems, causes, and populations involved
- Determining if conditions support conducting an impact audit

Module 3: Designs for Conducting Impact Audits

- Exploring methodological designs: Post Group Comparison, Before-and-After, and Time-Series
- Assessing strengths and weaknesses of each design
- Controlling for rival causes and external factors in analyses
- Applying designs to practical auditing scenarios

Module 4: Applying the Designs

- Formulating precise audit objectives and questions
- Selecting the most appropriate methodological design
- Identifying and collecting reliable performance data
- Documenting audit plans clearly and effectively

Module 5: Cost and Benefit Analysis

- Understanding the use and significance of cost-benefit analyses
- Quantifying benefits attributable to program initiatives
- Calculating and evaluating cost-efficiency and cost-effectiveness

- Performing practical cost-benefit analysis on implemented initiatives