Today’s Topics

• 2017 FM/MFE Changes
• ASA Changes – Why
• ASA Changes – What
• ASA Changes – When
• A few other items of interest
2017 FM/MFE Changes
FM – Starting June 2017

• All derivatives material removed, except interest rate swaps (see new study note)
• New study note on a better approximation when using duration to estimate the effect of a change in interest rates.
• New study note on determinants of interest rates
• No change in approved texts, but some sections may have changed.
• Instant (unofficial) results.
MFE – Starting July 2017

- Derivatives material moved from FM.
- Some advanced topics removed.
- McDonald continues to be the only approved reference.
- Instant results will not be available.
Official posting

• The syllabus and readings for these exams will appear on their respective home pages by the end of January.
• At this time, they become official, though changes are not expected.
ASA Changes - Why
Predictive Analytics

• Currently, only requiring linear regression and time series
  • Some advanced topics on FSA tracks

• Need to introduce all actuaries to
  • New methods (generalized linear models, decision trees, clustering, machine learning, ...)
  • Dealing with big data (avoiding overfitting, dimension reduction, communicating model value, ...)
Short-term/long-term balance

• Long-term coverages (life, annuities, pensions) a staple of actuarial education
• Short-term coverages (health, property, liability) are relative newcomers
• SOA required curriculum needs to provide equal treatment
IAA Minimum Syllabus

• Required of all member associations
• Revisions under consideration
• Has guided our development, but not yet a requirement
ASA Changes - What
Current

- Economics
- Corporate Finance

New

- Economics
- Accounting and Finance
- Mathematical Statistics

Applied Statistics

- Probability
- Financial Mathematics

Models for Financial Economics

Models for Life Contingencies

Construction of Actuarial Models

Fundamentals of Actuarial Practice

Associateship Professionalism Course

Probabilistic Models and Risk Management

- Probability
- Financial Mathematics

Statistics for Risk Modeling

Investment and Financial Markets

Long-Term Actuarial Mathematics

Short-Term Actuarial Mathematics

Predictive Analytics

Fundamentals of Actuarial Practice

Associateship Professionalism Course

Exam

TBD

E-Learning Module

Seminar

KEY

- VEE
- Exam
- TBD
- E-Learning Module
- Seminar
Key Observations

• Was 10 requirements, is now 12
  • Needed to add predictive analytics
  • Will increase travel time

• One new form of assessment
  • Predictive Analytics by “proctored project”
VEE Topics

• Economics
  • Unchanged from current syllabus

• Accounting and Finance
  • Accounting is new
  • Lighter finance coverage than current VEE

• Mathematical Statistics
  • New to VEE, replacing Applied Statistics
Topics to be Formally Assessed

- By computer-based test
  - Probability (updates P)
  - Financial Mathematics (updates FM)
  - Investment and Financial Markets (updates MFE)
  - Short-Term Actuarial Mathematics (updates C)
  - Statistics for Risk Modeling (New)

- By multiple choice plus written answer
  - Long-Term Actuarial Mathematics (updates MLC)

- By proctored project
  - Predictive Analytics (New)
FAP and APC

• Fundamentals of Actuarial Practice (FAP)
• Associateship Professionalism Course (APC)

• For both:
  • No change in their basic structure
  • Some topics may be updated or revised
Timing

• Revised components go into effect with first administrations after July 1, 2018
• There may be some minor adjustments due to computer-based testing protocols
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Transition Timing

• Candidates whose names do NOT appear on the June 2018 or earlier list of new ASAs must complete the new requirements to earn their ASA.

• Candidates whose names appear on the June 2018 or earlier list of new ASAs are exempt from completing the new requirements, provided they also earn fellowship by July 1, 2022.
Key Point

• Despite the increase in components, anyone with an ASA will retain the designation.

• However, it is possible that some who continue to FSA will have to go back and pick up the missing components.
  
  • This is a longstanding policy; the fact that you received an ASA at some point in time does not mean your current requirements are the current fellowship portion.
Recommended Order

• Candidates may take the ASA requirements in any order with two exceptions:
  • APC Eligibility rule: Candidates can be lacking either the FAP Final Assessment or one exam (but not both)
  • New Statistics for Risk Modeling Exam must be passed prior to the new Predictive Analytics requirement.
Key Dates I – Publication Dates

• About January 16 the learning objectives for all the new components will be released.

• All reading lists will be available by July 1. However, as each exam is finished, the list for that exam will be released.
Key Dates II – ASA by July 1, 2018

• The following exams must be taken (and passed) no later than:
  • Exam P: March 2018 session
  • Exam FM: April 2018 session
  • Exam MFE: March 2018 session
  • Exam MLC: Fall 2017 session
  • Exam C: February 2018 session

• VEE submissions:
  • Course approval forms by February 16, 2018
  • Candidate credit requests by April 27, 2018
Key Dates II – ASA by July 1, 2018

• Fundamentals of Actuarial Practice submissions:
  • All end of module exercises and assessments must be submitted by March 30, 2018.

• Associateship Professionalism Course:
  • Must be completed by May 31, 2018

• Filing of Application for ASA
  • Must be completed by June 8, 2018
Key Point About Key Dates

• If a current exam/assessment/VEE is taken after these deadlines, but before July 1, 2018, transition credit is still earned.

• Examples
  • Take and pass June 2018 Exam C -> Earn credit for VEE Math Stat and Short-Term Actuarial Mathematics Exam
  • Take and pass April/May 2018 Exam MLC -> Earn credit for Long-Term Actuarial Mathematics Exam
  • Complete VEE Applied Statistics requirement in spring semester 2018 -> Earn credit for VEE Math Stat and Statistics for Risk Modeling Exam
Learn more about the upcoming changes being made to the ASA and CERA curriculum by visiting www.soa.org/curriculumchanges
A Few Other Items of Interest
SOA Candidate Connect

• Stand-alone **events** and events at larger SOA meetings
• Candidate Connect **e-newsletter**
  • To subscribe, please visit: [http://soa.org/candidateconnect/](http://soa.org/candidateconnect/)
• Society of Actuaries page on **Facebook**
• Candidate Connect sponsors **other student events**
  • Midwest Actuarial Student Conference
  • Actuarial Student National Association (ASNA) convention and case competition
  • Gamma Iota Sigma
The Candidate Connect community allows SOA exam candidates, actuarial science students and all aspiring actuaries to interact with SOA staff and services, with SOA members, actuarial employers and with each other.

**Latest Discussion Posts***

**ASNA Toronto Canada Gathering**
By: Michael Nowak, 15 days ago
This January marks the Actuarial Students National Association (ASNA) student gathering in Toronto, Canada. Society of Actuaries (SOA) president-elect Mike Lombardi is one of the presenters. Candidates, if you are attending share your thoughts here....

**WEVE MOVED**
By: Ken Mitchell, 19 days ago

**Announcements**

**Welcome!**
By: Xigoyan Anderson, 6 months ago
Welcome to Candidate Connect! The new SOA Engage - Candidate Connect community is for you to interact with fellow candidates, practicing actuaries, employers and SOA staff.

[Introduction to Candidate Connect]
SOA University Programs

• University Outreach
  • 126 schools visited to date

• UCAP List
  • Each UCAP has two exam covered and some VEE

• Hickman Scholar Awards
  • 5 Stipends awarded annually to PhD students

• ATC
  • Actuarial Teaching Conference (June 26-27, Pittsburgh)

• Faculty Community
  • Online discussion forum
SOA Explorer Map