A brief description of the KAM’s focus

Management theory and practice recognize the science of decision making as a distinct discipline in its own right. The overall purpose of this KAM is for students to demonstrate a broad-based knowledge of this discipline in terms of its theoretical foundations, the status of current research and analysis, and application of decision-making techniques in a wide range of corporate and public spheres. These objectives are further explained and demarcated below.

Breadth:
Following the typical Walden pedagogical trilogy, the breadth here is about demonstration of advanced knowledge of theoretical and conceptual foundations of the subject matter of decision sciences. These foundations are built on both the subjective and objectives realms of human behavior, in this case the act of decision making. The key theoretical issues here are: How do people make decisions under uncertainty, what do they consider desirable (the subjective element) and what objective probabilities do they assign to the occurrence of different desirable outcomes? Decision theory has been largely informed by the logic of rationality and the mathematical/statistical theory of probability. The breadth essay should be a 30-page document dealing with these issues.

Depth:
Depth is about demonstration of familiarity with the status of current research, methods, and analysis in the totality of what may be described as decision support systems. These may include a wide mixture of quantitative and qualitative methods, such as operations research, modeling process, linear and nonlinear programming, networks analysis, scenarios, simulation techniques, stochastic analysis, risk analysis, decision-trees, panel analysis, etc. An annotated bibliography of 15 or more recently published journal articles and a 25-page essay discussing these methods, their strengths, weaknesses and applications are the expected learning outcomes of the depth component in this KAM.

Application
A 20-25 page project demonstrating how you and/or your organization would apply or has applied one or more of the above methods/techniques in a
relevant real-life decision-making situation should suffice the completion of this component.

Note: Please try to clearly demarcate the demonstrations as explained above for each component in order to avoid redundancy between breadth, depth, and application, at the same time that you construct the entire KAM as an integrated document on the subject matter discussed. The document must correspond to the Walden approved APA form and style manual, along with appropriate table of contents and references separately for each section.

Start-up references

