



Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Body of Knowledge

Based on the BOK developed by the Center for Operational Excellence at OSU Fisher College of Business

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Mastery Requirement Key	
Bloom's Taxonomy	
RE	Remember terminology, facts, and definitions
UN	Understand and explain ideas and concepts
AP	Apply information, methods, and procedures in a new way or in a different context
AN	Analyze critically to compare and contrast, discriminate through experimentation, and identify inter-relationships
EV	Evaluate to draw conclusions and reach judgements through interpretation of analytical work
CR	Create new methods, processes, systems, concepts, and ideas

Topic	Mastery Requirement*	Mastery Assessment
General		
Lean Six Sigma Defined	UN	Describe nature and purpose of Lean Six Sigma
Integration of Lean and Six Sigma	UN	Compare and contrast focus and approaches (Process Velocity and Quality)
Y=f(X) Input Determines Output	EV	Express business processes as a transfer function
The Business Case for Lean Six Sigma	AP	Describe value proposition of Lean Six Sigma as a methodology
Origins of Lean and Six Sigma	UN	Understand historical perspective and evolution
Lean Principles	UN	Describe the fundamental principles of lean.
8 Wastes	AP	Identify different types of waste in a process.
DMAIC - The Lean Six Sigma Improvement Process	EV	Apply DMAIC methodology to organize project thinking and work
Lean and DMAIC	AP	Apply DMAIC methodology at varying levels of complexity based on project requirements and mix of "Lean" vs "Variation Reduction" activities.
Thought Process Mapping	AN	Employ Question->Action->Answer approach to guide critical thinking
Project Management		
Organizing for Success	UN	Understand critical organizational success factors

Working Relationships & Responsibilities	UN	Understand typical work role definitions and structure
Balanced Scorecard Analysis	AP	Develop high level metrics to present comprehensive representation of performance across critical dimensions
Project Selection	AP	Select projects based on systematic analysis of key organizational performance metrics, comparing actual to imperative to identify gaps
Project Charter	CR	Create project charter with compelling business case, clear objectives, and appropriate scope of action
Project Tracking	EV	Systematically plan and execute project work activities
Leading Project Teams	AP	Provide positive leadership energy to accomplish project goals through people: communicate, convince, coordinate and compell
Leading Change	AP	Apply change management techniques to accomplish project objectives
Leader Standard Work	AP	Formulate appropriate leader standard work to build organizational habits that support institutional process improvement activities
Stakeholder Analysis - RACI Matrix	AP	Recognize stakeholders, their needs, possible conflicts or resistance, and plan and communicate accordingly

Topic	Mastery Requirement*	Mastery Assessment
Define Phase of DMAIC		
Process Thinking and The Value Stream	UN	Define high level value streams
Process Mapping - Overview	AN	Understand alternate forms of process mapping and apply criteria to select the appropriate type of map for the situation
SIPOC Maps	AP	Construct SIPOC map incorporating relevant elements
Process Flow Charts and Swim Lanes	AP	Construct Flow Chart using standard symbols and with activities identified by department or function
Value-Added Flow Charts (7/8 Wastes)	AP	Construct Flow Chart which identifies non-value-added activities
Spaghetti Charts	AP	Construct chart to map the physical flow of materials or virtual flow of information
Value Stream Mapping (Current State, Takt Time)	AP	Construct Value Stream Map of current/future process state, showing order flows, processing time by step, inventories, delays, set-up times, takt time, and overall cycle time (lead time), waste and bottlenecks.
Voice of The Customer	UN	Express importance of customer-driven activities
Understanding Customer Requirements (Kano Model)	AP	Apply Kano Analysis to identify opportunities to "delight" customers
Sources of Customer Data	UN	Recognize sources for VOC data
Conducting Surveys	UN	Recognize situations calling for a survey to collect customer data
Surveys - Sampling Frame	AP	Incorporate sample frame considerations to achieve representative sample
Structuring Survey Questions	AP	Structure survey questions to achieve desired results and avoid bias
The Degree of Uncertainty in Sampling	AP	Factor uncertainty into survey analysis

Guideline for Margin of Error	AP	Incorporate margin of error into analysis of survey results
Affinity Diagram Toolset	AP	Use Affinity Diagram to sort and group customer data
CTQC Tree Diagram	AP	Develop Tree Diagram to refine general customer requirements into Critical To Quality Requirements.
Operational Definitions	CR	Craft operational definitions to express customer requirements in clear and objective terms
Voice Of The Customer As Specifications	AN	Translate customer requirements into internal process/product specifications
Quality Function Deployment (QFD)	EV	Employ Quality Function Deployment to develop the internal process parameters necessary to meet customer requirements
Define Phase Tollgate Review	EV	Review critical questions for the Define Phase to ensure that answers have been developed

Topic	Mastery Requirement*	Mastery Assessment
Measure Phase of DMAIC		

Measurements and Basic Statistics	UN	Describe the role of measurements and basis statistics in the Measure phase of a DMAIC project
Business Problem Solving Using Statistics	AN	Express practical problems as statistical question, and translate statistical answers into practical answers
Basic Statistical Terms	AP	Describe basic statistical terms in structuring actions to answer critical questions
Descriptive and Inferential Statistics	AP	Differentiate between Descriptive and Inferential Statistics
Discrete vs. Continuous Measurements	AP	Identify the most useful type of data to collect to meet project requirements
Measurement Subjects	AP	Distinguish between type of measures subjects
Graphical Summaries	AN	Interpret the information conveyed by graphical representations of data
Statistical Software (Minitab, EngineRoom, JMP, or other)	AP	Demonstrate use of statistical software to analyze data
Pareto Chart	AN	Use Pareto Charts to rank by frequency and interpret the output
Measuring Central Tendency	AN	Calculate and interpret appropriate measures of central tendency in analyzing process performance (mean, median, mode)
Quantifying Process Variability	AN	Calculate and interpret appropriate measures of variation in analyzing process performance (variance, standard deviation, range)
The Normal Distribution	AN	Apply normal distribution concepts to assessments of capability and employ Z-scores to model probability
Cause & Effect Matrix Toolset	EV	Systematically identify process inputs which potential to significantly effect output of interest
Measurement System Analysis (MSA)	UN	Appreciate the important role of measurement system analysis
Measurement As A Process	AP	Apply the study of measurement system capability as a process
Requirements of Measurement Systems	AP	Execute measurement analysis to address the requirements of a reliable system
Gauge R & R (Variable Data)	EV	Evaluate systems used to collect variable data
MSA - Graphing	EV	Apply graphical analysis to enhance MSA evaluation

Attribute Measurement System Analysis	EV	Evaluate systems used to collect variable data
Calibration of Measurement Systems	AP	Apply calibration guidelines to ensure measurement system reliability over time
Collecting Data	EV	Develop a data collection plan
Developing a Sampling Plan	AP	Incorporate effective sampling guidelines
Establishing Baseline Performance	EV	Select and apply the appropriate measurement and interpret results
Throughput Yield and Rolled Throughput Yield	EV	Calculate and interpret results
The Process Sigma Level	EV	Calculate and interpret results
Charting Process Behavior (SPC) Background	UN	Describe origin and purpose of Control Charts
Trend Charts (Run Charts)	EV	Create and interpret this type of chart
SPC Concepts & Control Limits	AP	Employ Control Limits to evaluate process stability
Types of SPC Charts	AP	Recognize which chart should be applied in a given situation
Rational Subgrouping	EV	Develop a rational sampling plan to represent the entire process output
X and Moving Range Charts	EV	Create and interpret this type of chart
Attribute Control Charts	EV	Create and interpret this type of chart
X bar and R Charts, X bar and S	EV	Create and interpret this type of chart
Process Capability (Cp, Cpk, Pp, Ppk)	EV	Assess process capability, factoring in prerequisites of process stability and normality
Normality Assessment, Transformation of Non-Normal Data	EV	Recognize impact of non-normality and take actions as required to transform data
Performance Baseline: Sigma Level		Use the Sigma Level to establish a reference value for process performance.
Rapid Improvements - Leading Kaizen Events	EV	Organize and execute rapid improvement events (Kaizen Blitz)
Future State VSM - Line Balancing	EV	Create future state Value Stream Maps, incorporating balancing of resources
MEASURE - Tollgate Review	EV	Review critical questions for the Measure Phase to ensure that answers have been developed

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Analyze Phase of DMAIC		
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Finding The Root Cause - Basic Concepts	AP	Recognize and apply alternate methods of root cause identification and validation
Cause & Effect Diagram	EV	Draw upon process experience to systematically identify potential root causes
5-Why, 1-How	EV	Use sequential questions to uncover causal relationships
Box Plots	EV	Stratify a data set by any attribute and compare the subgroups both visually and statistically.
Scatter Plots	EV	Evaluate correlation between variables graphically
Root Cause Tree	AN	Establish the links between an effect and a branching system of causes.
Correlation and Regression Analysis	EV	Evaluate correlation between variables statistically
Multiple Regression	EV	Identify relationships between multiple inputs and a continuous output and build a mathematical model of the relationship
Logistic Regression	EV	Identify relationships between multiple inputs and a discrete binary output and build a mathematical model of the relationship
Estimating Population Proportion	AP	Determine required sample size to estimate population proportion

Estimating Population Mean	AP	Determine required sample size to estimate population mean
Hypothesis Testing: Purpose, Concepts and Language	AP	Recognize situations where a formal test of hypothesis is warranted
Formatting the Hypothesis to be Tested	EV	Properly format null and alternate hypotheses
Types of Error - Alpha and Beta	AN	Understand types of error and incorporate into testing plan
Power Analysis	AN	Design test to meet Power requirements
Confidence Intervals	AN	Apply confidence intervals to interpret the results of a test
Treatment Comparisons using Control Charts	EV	Recognize the role of control charts in evaluating process changes
Comparing One Proportion to a Standard	EV	Select the correct test, structure null and alternate hypotheses, satisfy underlying assumptions, analyze for statistically significant difference, and interpret results
Comparing Two Proportions - Z-test	EV	Select the correct test, structure null and alternate hypotheses, satisfy underlying assumptions, analyze for statistically significant difference, and interpret results
Comparing Multiple Proportions - Chi-Square	EV	Select the correct test, structure null and alternate hypotheses, satisfy underlying assumptions, analyze for statistically significant difference, and interpret results
Comparing One Mean to a Standard - t-test	EV	Select the correct test, structure null and alternate hypotheses, satisfy underlying assumptions, analyze for statistically significant difference, and interpret results
Comparing Two Means - t-test	EV	Select the correct test, structure null and alternate hypotheses, satisfy underlying assumptions, analyze for statistically significant difference, and interpret results
Comparing Multiple Means - ANOVA /F-test	EV	Select the correct test, structure null and alternate hypotheses, satisfy underlying assumptions, analyze for statistically significant difference, and interpret results
Confidence Intervals - Least Significant Difference	EV	Employ confidence intervals to evaluate observed differences
Comparing One Variance to a Std. - Chi-Square	EV	Select the correct test, structure null and alternate hypotheses, satisfy underlying assumptions, analyze for statistically significant difference, and interpret results
Comparing Two Variances - F-test	EV	Select the correct test, structure null and alternate hypotheses, satisfy underlying assumptions, analyze for statistically significant difference, and interpret results
Parametric vs. Non Parametric Tests	AN	Recognize the difference between types of hypothesis test and apply the correct test to fit the situation

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Analyze Phase of DMAIC - continued

Non Parametric Tests: Sign, Wilcoxon Signed-Ranks, Mann-Whitney-Wilcoxon, Kruskal-Wallis, Friedman,	EV	Select the correct test, structure null and alternate hypotheses, satisfy underlying assumptions, analyze for statistically significant difference, and interpret results
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Design of Experiments (DOE): Purpose, Principles	UN	Describe purpose and principles of DOE
DOE: Process, Components, Guidelines	AN	Recognize the correct circumstances to employ DOE and follow the experimental process in doing so
Selecting the Right Experimental Design	EV	Select a design to balance experimental objectives
DOE: Blocking	EV	Determine proper use of blocking
DOE: Power Analysis	EV	Use of replicates to achieve required level of Power
DOE: Single Factor Experiments	EV	Compare effectiveness of 3 or more alternative treatments or methods, including blocking for sources of known variation. Identify main effects and interactions, construct model, analyze model diagnostics and evaluate model quality, interpret results and relate to subject process in practical terms.
DOE: Two Level Full Factorial Designs	EV	Identify main effects and interactions, construct model, analyze model diagnostics and evaluate model quality, interpret results and relate to subject process in practical terms.
DOE: Two Level Fractional Factorial Designs	EV	Identify main effects and interactions, construct model, analyze model diagnostics and evaluate model quality, interpret results and relate to subject process in practical terms.
DOE: General Factorial Designs	EV	Identify main effects and interactions, construct model, analyze model diagnostics and evaluate model quality, interpret results and relate to subject process in practical terms.
ANALYZE - Tollgate Review	EV	Review critical questions for the Analyze Phase to ensure that answers have been developed

Topic	Mastery Requirement*	Mastery Assessment
Improve Phase of DMAIC		

Design for Six Sigma (DFSS) Overview	UN	Recognize the complementary role of Design for Six Sigma
Benchmarking	AN	Conduct benchmarking studies for comparative purposes
Brainstorming	AP	Facilitate effective brainstorming
Multi-voting	AP	Employ multi-voting to prioritize actions
FMEA	EV	Prioritize, evaluate and resolve potential risks
Error-proofing	EV	Implement process changes to prevent the root cause of errors
Prioritizing and Selecting a Solution	EV	Systematically select improvement solution sets
The A3 One-Page Report	AN	Employ the A-3 approach when necessary to organize and communicate project activities
Continuous Flow & Little's Law	AN	Analyze and resolve constraints to move process toward continuous flow
Quick Changeover Toolset Viewed	EV	Improve process flow by reducing changeover or set-up time
Cellular Processing Toolset Viewed	EV	Implement work-cells to improve process flow
Theory of Constraints (TOC) - Line Balancing	AN	Use TOC principles to identify, elevate, and resolve bottlenecks
A-B-C Work Stratification	EV	Determine inventory levels based on stratification
Internal Pull Systems	AN	Set up internal pull system to improve flow and reduce inventories
External Pull Systems	AN	Set up external pull to improve flow and reduce inventories
Corrective Action Matrix	AP	Organize and track improvement activities while driving accountability for implementation
Piloting a Solution	AP	Trial and evaluate solutions on a small scale prior to full implementation

System Dynamics	EV	Identify potential unintended consequences and while develop robust process knowledge of balancing and reinforcing forces
IMPROVE - Tollgate Review	EV	Review critical questions for the Improve Phase to ensure that answers have been developed

Topic	Mastery Requirement*	Mastery Assessment
Control Phase of DMAIC		
Verifying Improvements with Control Charts	AN	Evaluate "before" vs "after" data to validate process improvements, and employ control charts for ongoing process management
The Process Control Plan	EV	Establish a process management system for ongoing data collection, monitoring, and reaction
Visual Control	AN	Institute visual control techniques to improve process management
5-S Approach	AN	Apply 5-S techniques to organize and streamline the workplace
Total Productive Maintenance	AP	Implement TPM practices to improve process reliability and eliminate downtime
Best Practices and Lessons Learned	EV	Evaluate successful actions and proactively share lessons learned with the broader organization
Standardized Work - Documenting Process Changes	AP	Establish and document standard work to reduce variability
Ending the Project Viewed - Project Hand-off	AP	Employ a systematic process to transfer responsibilities to the process owner and close the project
CONTROL - Tollgate Review	EV	Review critical questions for the Control Phase to ensure that answers have been developed