

2016-2017 LAW STUDENT EXIT SURVEY

Data on Student Satisfaction and Co-curricular Participation

Key Findings:

Law students who earned their degrees during the 2016-2017 academic year (AY):

- Indicated high levels of satisfaction with the overall quality of academic instruction (95% very satisfied or satisfied) and their overall experience in their program (95% very satisfied or satisfied).
- Rated less highly their satisfaction with the frequency of class offerings in their program (40% very satisfied or satisfied) and the quality of academic advising in their program (74% very satisfied or satisfied).

Overall, 88% of AY 2016-2017 law degree earners were very satisfied or satisfied with their overall experience at UMass Dartmouth. Eighty-eight percent strongly agreed or agreed that they would recommend UMass School of Law - Dartmouth to future law students.



THE SURVEY

As part of the online application for graduation, students are asked to complete an exit survey that asks about their satisfaction with their university experience and their participation in co-curricular activities. Overall, 42 AY 2016-2017 law degree earners responded to the law student exit survey (a response rate of approximately 84.0%)¹. This brief details the principal findings from the survey (note: responses are based on the number of students responding to the relevant survey items).

GENERAL SATISFACTION

- The percentage of AY 2016-2017 law degree earners who rated their level of satisfaction as “very satisfied” or “satisfied”² was:
 - 95% for the overall quality of academic instruction
 - 83% for the overall quality of instructional spaces
 - 79% for the maintenance (upkeep) of campus buildings and grounds
 - 90% for the feeling of personal safety on campus
 - 78% for the availability of financial support for law students
 - 56% for social life on campus

What Law Students Had to Say About Their UMass Law Experience:

“I am grateful for UMass Law’s staff and faculty, many of whom made my transition into law school smooth, and supported me throughout my years of study.”

“This has been a largely excellent experience. The next few years appear bright for the school as it grows.”

CAMPUS SERVICES

- 83% of AY 2017 law degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed”³ that it was easy to get assistance when they had a problem or question that needed to be resolved.

^{1/} Response rate is approximate due to the inclusion of some students who had a degree confirm date outside of AY 2017 (about 0% of confirmed degree earners who took the survey).

^{2/} Satisfaction rating options were as follows: very dissatisfied, dissatisfied, neither dissatisfied nor satisfied, satisfied, and very satisfied.

^{3/} Agreement rating options were as follows: strongly disagree, disagree, neither disagree nor agree, agree, strongly agree.

ACADEMICS

- 86% of AY 2017 law degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they felt like there was somewhere or someone they could turn to on campus if they were struggling academically.
- 86% of AY 2017 law degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that UMass Dartmouth had prepared them to enter the work force or further their studies.
- 95% of AY 2017 law degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience in their program. Comparatively, regarding the frequency of class offerings and the quality of academic advising in their program, 40% and 74%, respectively, were “very satisfied” or “satisfied.”



What Law Students Had to Say About Their UMass Law Experience:

“The Law School has a number of strengths that have become apparent to me: social justice, positive student culture, close faculty-student relationships, close staff-student relationships, and a general sense of being underdogs with something to prove. This school is in a tremendous position for growth. Can't wait to see where it goes.”

STUDENT LIFE

- 88% of AY 2017 law degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they received sufficient help with any personal or social issues.
- 74% of AY 2017 law degree earners participated in student clubs/organizations.
- 50% of AY 2017 law degree earners had an interest in attending campus events or activities.

OVERALL RATING

- 88% of AY 2017 law degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience at UMass Dartmouth.
- 88% of AY 2017 law degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they would recommend UMass School of Law - Dartmouth to future law students.

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