

2011-2012 UNDERGRADUATE EXIT SURVEY

Data on Student Satisfaction and Co-curricular Participation

Key Findings:

Undergraduates who earned their degrees during the 2011-2012 academic year (AY):

- Indicated high levels of satisfaction with the overall quality of academic instruction (90% very satisfied or satisfied) and their overall experience in their majors (87% very satisfied or satisfied).
- Rated less highly their satisfaction with the upkeep of campus buildings and grounds (52% very satisfied or satisfied) and the ease with which they could get assistance to resolve problems or questions (53% strongly agreed or agreed that it was easy to get assistance when needed).

Overall, 78% of AY 2011-2012 undergraduate degree earners were very satisfied or satisfied with their overall experience at UMass Dartmouth. Sixty-nine percent strongly agreed or agreed that they would recommend UMass Dartmouth to future college 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, 1,091 AY 2011-2012 undergraduate degree earners responded to the undergraduate exit survey (a response rate of approximately 87.2%)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 2012 undergraduate degree earners who rated their level of satisfaction as “very satisfied” or “satisfied”² was:
 - 90% for the overall quality of academic instruction
 - 72% for the feeling of personal safety on campus
 - 68% for social life on campus
 - 64% for the overall quality of instructional spaces
 - 52% for the maintenance (upkeep) of campus buildings and grounds

CAMPUS SERVICES

- 53% of AY 2012 undergraduate 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.

What Students Had to Say About Their UMD Experience:

“Coming to UMass Dartmouth for an education is an amazing experience.”

“I had a great time at the school, though I ... commuted throughout my journey. The teachers were excellent and inspirational ...”

“The negative aspects of my experience came mostly from the administrative offices. I had paperwork that was lost and issues with holds on my account that prevented me from doing many things.”

“The condition of the buildings are unsatisfactory and should be fixed...”

^{1/} Response rate is approximate due to the inclusion of some students who had a degree confirm date outside of AY 2012 (about 5% 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

- 60% of AY 2012 undergraduate 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.
- 66% of AY 2012 undergraduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that UMass Dartmouth had prepared them to enter the work force or further their studies.
- 87% of AY 2012 undergraduate degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience in their major.
- The percentage of AY 2012 undergraduate degree earners who rated their satisfaction with their academic skills as “very satisfied” or “satisfied” was:
 - 88% for Oral Communication Skills
 - 86% for Writing Skills
 - 76% for Math/Computational Skills
- Students who took more than 12 semesters to earn a degree identified their top three reasons why as:
 1. Changed/added a major or minor
 2. A job/employment commitments
 3. Personal issues or responsibilities

STUDENT LIFE

- 56% of AY 2012 undergraduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they received sufficient help with any personal or social issues.
- 69% of AY 2012 undergraduate degree earners worked for pay while a student at UMass Dartmouth.
- 44% of AY 2012 undergraduate degree earners participated in Greek life or other student clubs/organizations.
- 73% of AY 2012 undergraduate degree earners had an interest in attending campus events or activities.

What Students Had to Say About Their UMD Experience:

“This university has allowed me to feel confident entering the work place as well as inspiring me to further my education at a graduate level of study.”

“ I feel that UMass Dartmouth needs to continue to improve the campus life.”

“There are rarely events on the weekends when students have free time.”

“Student Affairs ... made my experience here much more enjoyable.”

OVERALL RATING

- 78% of AY 2012 undergraduate degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience at UMass Dartmouth.
- 69% of AY 2012 undergraduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they would recommend UMass Dartmouth to future college students.

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