

2013-2014 UNDERGRADUATE EXIT SURVEY Data on Student Satisfaction and Co-curricular Participation

Key Findings:

Undergraduates who earned their degrees during the 2013-2014 academic year (AY):

- Indicated high levels of satisfaction with the overall quality of academic instruction (88% were very satisfied or satisfied) and their overall experience in their majors (88% were very satisfied or satisfied).
- Rated less highly their satisfaction with the upkeep of campus buildings and grounds (59% were very satisfied or satisfied), the ease with which they could get assistance to resolve problems or questions (55% strongly agreed or agreed that it was easy to get assistance when needed), and the frequency of class offerings in their major (54% were very satisfied or satisfied).

Overall, 79% of AY 2013-2014 undergraduate degree earners were very satisfied or satisfied with their overall experience at UMass Dartmouth. Seventy-one 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, 1,171 AY 2013-2014 undergraduate degree earners responded to the undergraduate exit survey (a response rate of approximately 91.8%)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 2014 undergraduate degree earners who rated their level of satisfaction as “very satisfied” or “satisfied”² was:
 - 88% for the overall quality of academic instruction
 - 75% for the feeling of personal safety on campus
 - 69% for social life on campus
 - 70% for the overall quality of instructional spaces
 - 59% for the maintenance (upkeep) of campus buildings and grounds

What Students Had to Say About Their UMassD Experience:

“My time at the University is something I will always cherish as I move forward professionally and personally.”

“I have had problems that I had to solve on my own because no one would get back to me.”

“The professors I have encountered within my major have been absolutely amazing. I can not speak highly enough about them.”

“It is difficult to stay on track with graduating when the courses that you need to take are not offered.”

CAMPUS SERVICES

- 55% of AY 2013 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.

^{1/} Response rate is approximate due to the inclusion of some students who had a degree confirm date outside of AY 2014 (about 9% 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

- 65% of AY 2014 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.
- 72% of AY 2014 undergraduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that UMass Dartmouth had prepared them to enter the work force or further their studies.
- 88% of AY 2014 undergraduate degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience in their major. Comparatively, 54% were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the frequency of class offerings in their major.
- The percentage of AY 2014 undergraduate degree earners who rated the extent to which certain skill areas were enhanced by their university experience as “medium” or “high” was:
 - 84% for Inquiry and Analysis
 - 84% for Communication Skills
 - 86% for Critical Thinking
 - 65% for Civic Engagement
- 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

- 52% of AY 2014 undergraduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they received sufficient help with any personal or social issues.
- 70% of AY 2014 undergraduate degree earners worked for pay while a student at UMass Dartmouth.
- 53% of AY 2014 undergraduate degree earners participated in Greek life or other student clubs/organizations.
- 69% of AY 2014 undergraduate degree earners had an interest in attending campus events or activities.

What Students Had to Say About Their UMassD Experience:

“I feel that my experience at [UMassD] helped me to grow as a person....I feel fully prepared for the world outside of college.”

“I feel there is not a lot for people with social problems and mental disabilit[ies].”

“I would recommend UMass Dartmouth to future college students....because I was highly satisfied with the professors.”

“I think the campus can do more to help students engage and get involved on campus.”

OVERALL RATING

- 79% of AY 2014 undergraduate degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience at UMass Dartmouth.
- 71% of AY 2014 undergraduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they would recommend UMass Dartmouth to future college students.

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