

2015-2016 UNDERGRADUATE EXIT SURVEY

Data on Student Satisfaction and Co-curricular Participation

Key Findings:

Undergraduates who earned their degrees during the 2015-2016 academic year (AY):

- Indicated high levels of satisfaction with the overall quality of academic instruction (84% were very satisfied or satisfied) and their overall experience in their majors (85% were very satisfied or satisfied).
- Rated less highly their satisfaction with the ease with which they could get assistance to resolve problems or questions (60% strongly agreed or agreed that it was easy to get assistance when needed), the upkeep of campus buildings and grounds (59% were very satisfied or satisfied), and the frequency of class offerings in their major (55% were very satisfied or satisfied).

Overall, 75% of AY 2015-2016 undergraduate degree earners were very satisfied or satisfied with their overall experience at UMass Dartmouth. Sixty-eight 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, 1,277 AY 2015-2016 undergraduate degree earners responded to the undergraduate exit survey (a response rate of approximately 92.4%)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 2015-2016 undergraduate degree earners who rated their level of satisfaction as “very satisfied” or “satisfied”² was:
 - 84% for the overall quality of academic instruction
 - 75% for the feeling of personal safety on campus
 - 66% for social life on campus
 - 67% for the overall quality of instructional spaces
 - 59% for the maintenance (upkeep) of campus buildings and grounds

CAMPUS SERVICES

- 60% of AY 2015-2016 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 UMassD Experience:

“UMass Dartmouth is a great school that offers ample opportunity to succeed for its students. There is a tremendous amount of school spirit and pride across campus and throughout the community. The faculty and staff are highly knowledgeable and very helpful.”

“Thank you for the experience UMass Dartmouth has given me. I would have never in a million years imagine myself attending and now about to graduate from a 4 year University. This is only the beginning for me.”

“I would recommend UMass Dartmouth to future college students because it's one of the best school in MASS!”

^{1/} Response rate is approximate due to the inclusion of some students who had a degree confirm date outside of AY 2016 (about 1% 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

- 66% of AY 2015-2016 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.
- 69% of AY 2015-2016 undergraduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that UMass Dartmouth had prepared them to enter the work force or further their studies.
- 85% of AY 2015-2016 undergraduate degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience in their major. Comparatively, 55% were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the frequency of class offerings in their major.
- The percentage of AY 2015-2016 undergraduate degree earners who rated the extent to which certain skill areas were enhanced by their university experience as “medium” or “high” was:
 - 85% for Inquiry and Analysis
 - 84% for Communication Skills
 - 87% for Critical Thinking
 - 67% for Civic Engagement
- Students who took more than 12 semesters to earn a degree identified their top three reasons why as:
 1. Personal issues or responsibilities - 37%
 2. A job/employment commitments - 32%
 3. Changed/added a major or minor - 30%

STUDENT LIFE

- 55% of AY 2015-2016 undergraduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they received sufficient help with any personal or social issues.
- 70% of AY 2015-2016 undergraduate degree earners worked for pay while a student at UMass Dartmouth.
- 53% of AY 2015-2016 undergraduate degree earners participated in Greek life or other student clubs/organizations.
- 70% of AY 2015-2016 undergraduate degree earners had an interest in attending campus events or activities.

What Students Had to Say About Their UMassD Experience:

“I have had a great experience in coming back to UMD after a 20 year break. The advisor, enrollment services, professors have all been very helpful and someone was always willing to refer me if they could not help me directly.”

“I love this University. It changed my life and made me into a confident and successful adult.”

“UMass Dartmouth has outstanding faculty and is a great university for anyone looking for a quality education.”

“This is an excellent school who is looking for real-world applicable experience, rather than just a brand name diploma. I thoroughly enjoyed my experience here and would recommend it to anyone.”

OVERALL RATING

- 75% of AY 2015-2016 undergraduate degree earners were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their overall experience at UMass Dartmouth.
- 68% of AY 2015-2016 undergraduate degree earners “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they would recommend UMass Dartmouth to future college students.

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