

MDA Assessment Report

Nov 1, 2018

Program Numbers

1. Demand for the MDA continues to be high This year (2018), there are 33 in the cohort which is the largest class to date. The total number of MDA students from fall 2012 through fall 2018 is 140. A TA continues to support the MDA courses for the second year and is funded from tuition generated by the increased student numbers. See spreadsheet below for yearly numbers.

| MDA Cohort start | # students | Years to Completion | | | | | | | % graduating at 1 year | % graduating at 2 years or less |
|------------------------------|------------|---|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | 1 | 1.33 | 1.67 | 2 | 2.33 | 2.67 | 3 | | |
| Fall 2012 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 67% | 89% |
| Fall 2013 | 12 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 67% | 92% |
| Fal 2014 | 11 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 45% | 100% |
| Fall 2015 | 31 | 17 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 55% | 94% |
| Fall 2016 | 25 | 13 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 52% | 96% |
| Total/ave (2012-2016) | 88 | 49 | 17 | 13 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 56% | 94% |
| Fall 2017 | 19 | 6 | | 1 | | | | | | |
| Fall 2018 | 33 | | | | | | | | | |
| | 140 | Total # students (2012-2018 cohorts) | | | | | | | | |
| | 94 | Total # grads (2012 cohort thru 2017 cohort graduates) | | | | | | | | |

2. Completion rates and time frame continue to be excellent. For cohorts that began in 2012 through 2016, there is a total of 87 graduates with:
 - a. 56% completing within 1 year
 - b. 94% completing within 2 years

The remaining students are continuing and all anticipate graduation under the 2-year mark. A smaller % of the 2017 cohort completed within one year which may be an anomaly or may reflect that a greater percentage of students are coming directly from the USU dietetic internship. These students may need an extra semester to complete coursework since they are beginning the jobs as dietitians at the same time they are starting the MDA.

Program Quality

1. I conducted a survey with past graduates in May 2018. The survey was sent to 83 graduates. 33 responded (40% response rate). Target areas for the survey include feedback on program objectives, course content and graduates' career progression since completing the MDA. This survey also had questions to inform the integration of the MDA with the USU Dietetic Internship. Results of the survey indicated high satisfaction with the MDA. 88% reported being promoted and/or taking on additional leadership responsibilities since graduating from the MDA. 100% of the respondents to the question "Would you recommend the MDA to others?" responded "Yes" and most gave reasons that supported their response .

2. I conducted exit interviews with 6 MDA graduate from spring and summer semesters (2018). Feedback was very positive along with some good ideas for making some minor changes. An aspect of the MDA that students mentioned multiple times as a positive experience were their practicum projects. They reported that the proposal development was well supported by the instructor and done in manageable pieces; and that it provided experience in identifying a project area and the background information to assess the need for the project and identifying research and resources that supported their project area. They valued being able to conduct the project in their workplace and indicated they had better skills now with collecting and interpreting evaluation data. They also reported benefitting from the experience of providing leadership of the project in their workplace and it provided an opportunity to interact with others in their workplace that they hadn't previously worked with.
3. IDEA ratings remain high and feedback from these evaluations and student surveys continue to be used to improve coursework.