

MDA Assessment Report

September 2017

Program Numbers

1. Demand for the MDA continues to be high. In Fall 2015, a cohort of 31 was accepted for the MDA, which was triple the average cohort size of the previous 3 years. In Fall 2016, a cohort of 25 began the MDA. This year (2017), there are 19 in the cohort. However, it is anticipated that 6-7 students will begin the MDA spring semester, so the overall number for the academic year is expected to be similar to the previous recent years. The total number of MDA students from fall 2012 through fall 2017 is 107. A TA continues to support the MDA courses for the second year and is funded from tuition generated by the increased student numbers.
2. Completion rates and time frame continue to be excellent. For cohorts that began in 2012 through 2015, there is a total of 63 students with:
 - a. 57% completing within 1 year
 - b. 94% completing within 2 years
 - c. 2 remaining from the 2015 cohort are expected to graduate within the year. All others have completed.

For the cohort of 25 students that began Fall 2016, 52% of the cohort completed within 1 year. The remaining students are continuing and all anticipate graduation under the 2-year mark.

Program Quality

1. IDEA ratings remain high and feedback from these evaluations and student surveys continue to be used to improve coursework. For example, additional peer reviews are planned for the project proposals this year, and I'm adding instructional video clips that I'm creating to incorporate into the resources available on Canvas.
2. Course materials are being reviewed and compared to the Future Education Model competencies that have been published by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and continued changes will be incorporated to align with these benchmarks.
3. In the coming year, we plan to survey MDA program graduates who are now at numbers that will provide valid survey data. Target areas for the survey include feedback on program objectives, course content and graduates' career progression since completing the MDA. This survey will also be used to inform the integration of the MDA with the USU Dietetic Internship.