



Human Development | 2015-2016 Assessment Report

1. Please give a brief overview of the assessment data you collected this year.

We assessed our application learning outcome.

- 1) We encouraged more students to complete internships using several means. We found that 36 students completed HUD internships in 2015-16 in comparison to 32 internships in 2014-15. This was a slight increase, but we had been hoping for a larger increase.
- 2) We surveyed HUD faculty on their inclusion of application learning outcomes in their courses. 100% reported that they have students engage in application of knowledge to real-world issues. We were particularly interested in service learning. We found that only 17% report using service learning in class and another 17% report they don't currently, but would be willing to add. HUD recently participated in the Community Based Learning Workshop on campus and will be adding service learning in collaboration with the YMCA to Hum Dev 332 (Middle Childhood and Adolescence: 3 sections) during 2016-17 based on this.
- 3) We gave an exit survey to graduating seniors in the fall and spring. We received 7 responses for the fall (19% response rate) and 9 responses for the spring (16% response rate). We combined the results of these two surveys.
 - a) We were interested in why students didn't complete an internship. 25% of the respondents did complete an internship. For those who didn't complete a HUD internship, they cited the GPA requirement (19%), lack of interest to complete an internship (25%), didn't know how to set one up (13%), completed an internship outside of HUD (19%), and doing an internship not for academic credit (6%).
 - b) We were interested in whether students engaged in service learning in their HUD courses. Students reported an average of 1.69 on a scale from 1 (not at all) to 5 (a lot).
 - c) We were also interested in how directly related students' post-graduation plans were to their HUD degree. 60% reported they were directly related, 30% said they were indirectly related, and 10% said they were not related at all.
- 4) We surveyed 229 HUD alumni. 68% reported that their work is directly related to their HUD degree. Most cited interpersonal skills/understanding people, child development/education, and their knowledge of the lifespan as the most useful skills/knowledge they've taken from HUD into their jobs.

2. How will you use what you've learned from the data that was collected?

We presented part of these data at our last department meeting this semester and will discuss it more in the fall. We will find other ways to encourage completing an internship to see if we can increase the number more. For example, 25% of respondents had no desire to complete an internship. Perhaps students need to be more informed about the benefits of completing an internship. We also recently modified the GPA requirement to attempt to broaden the number of students who complete these experiences. We will discuss other ways to incentivize faculty and students to engage in service learning and other application experiences at a future department meeting.