



Graduate Student Success Indicators at UMass Boston, Fall 2017

Douglas Ducharme EdD, Associate Director

The purpose of this report is to present key metrics to be used for assessment of graduate student programs at UMass Boston. In presenting the enclosed metrics, this report includes a rationale on the selection and development of the key metrics.

Background

Few studies have focused on graduate student success, resulting in a lack of common success metrics to evaluate graduate student programs. To develop good indicators for graduate success, one must define what success means for graduate students. Many studies focus on retention rather than degree completion and use continued enrollment as a key measure. The concept of degree progress replaces the idea of retention and better represents success (Girves & Wemmerus, 1988). Degree progress as a measure tracks the courses taken and degree earned.

Factors influencing degree progress may include graduate degree policies and requirements unique to each institution and degree program. For example, each program has different credits taken per semester and various program lengths to complete degree requirements. Graduate student credit load, defined as credit hours taken per semester by graduate students, serves as a good indicator of student involvement, where full time students would be more likely to have success toward degree completion due to a lack of external distraction. Grades also serve as a major factor for degree progress in master's programs, where higher grades are correlated with higher retention. Grades are less of a predictor for doctoral progress (Girves & Wemmerus, 1988).

Target Measures for Graduate Student Success

Table 1 depicts the target metrics for degree requirements across all graduate programs. According to the UMass Boston website, the measures for credit hours taken per semester and time to degree are projections for standard program completion. Variables are explained as follows:

Degree Requirements (DR) – the number of credit hours required to earn degree in program.

Target enrollment (TENR) – this measure of students enrolled per semester is notional, whereby department chairs and program directors would have better visibility on the actual enrollment targets.

Target credit hour load (TCH) – this measure represents the approximate number of credit hours a student would take per semester based on program design. Some programs merely state that normal degree completion might occur within a certain time frame (years or semesters). For these programs, the target credit hour load per semester can be calculated. Also, some programs may utilize summer semesters to augment the total credit hours taken per year in order to attain targeted time to degree measures.

Target time to degree (TTTD) – years it should take to complete the program. This measure is based on the UMass Boston website, when listed, or estimated by dividing the degree requirements by the target credit hour load doubled.

Target degrees awarded (TDEG) – the annual number of degrees awarded in each program is calculated by dividing the target enrollment by the target time to degree. The number of degrees awarded annually by program is function of enrollment and time to degree.

The relationships among key variables are depicted in Figure 1.

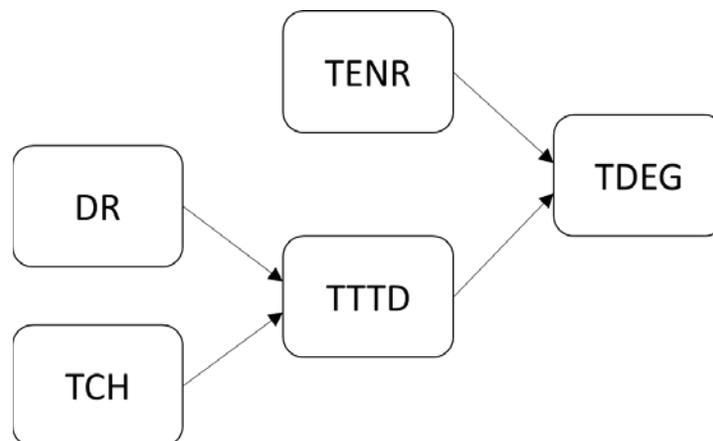


Figure 1. Conceptual model of key graduate program success indicators

According to Figure 1, the credit load and degree requirements determine the time to degree. For example, a Master’s in Applied Sociology has a target of 9 credit hours taken per semester to complete a degree requirement of 36 credit hours for a time to degree of 2.0 years. For all Master’s programs, the average (mean) target time to degree is 2.4 years. For all Doctoral programs, the average (mean) target time to degree is 4.0 years.

Figure 1 shows that the target number of degrees awarded in a program is a function of the target time to degree and the target enrollment. For example, a Master’s in Biology has a target enrollment of 20 divided by the target time to degree of 2.0 years, resulting in an average of 10 degrees awarded each year.

Table 1: Target metrics based on graduate program degree requirements, Fall 2017

			DEG REQ DR ⁽¹⁾	ENR TGT TENR ⁽²⁾	TGT CH LOAD TCH ⁽³⁾	TGT TTD TTTD ⁽⁴⁾	TGT DEG/YR TDEG ⁽⁵⁾
College of Liberal Arts							
CLA	American Studies	MA	30	20	7.5	2.0	10
CLA	Applied Economics	MA	32	15	7.5	2.1	7
CLA	Applied Linguistics	MA	30	150	7.5	2.0	75
CLA	Applied Sociology	MA	36	13	9	2.0	7
CLA	Sociology	PhD	36	36	6	3.0	12
CLA	Clinical Psychology	MA	n/a	n/a	12	2.0	n/a
CLA	Clinical Psychology	PhD	120	53	12	5.0	11
CLA	Dev & Brain Sciences	PhD	60	60	7.5	4.0	15
CLA	Creative Writing	MFA	48	26	9	2.7	10
CLA	English	MA	30	59	7.5	2.0	30
CLA	Historical Archaeology	MA	36	49	6	3.0	16
CLA	History	MA	33	72	7.5	2.2	33
CLA	Human Services	MS	39	25	7.5	2.6	10
CLA	Latin & Classical Human	MA	36	14	9	2.0	7
CLA	Transnational CCS	MS	37	37	9	2.0	19
College of Science and Mathematics							
CSM	Applied Physics	MS	34	18	9	1.9	10
CSM	Applied Physics	PhD	48	4	9	2.7	2
CSM	Biology	MS	30	10	7.5	2.0	5
CSM	Biology	PhD	60	55	9	3.3	17
CSM	BioMed Eng & Biotch	PhD	49	4	6	4.1	1
CSM	Biotec & Biomed Sci	MS	30	3	7.5	2.0	2
CSM	Chemistry	MS	36	13	7.5	2.4	5
CSM	Chemistry	PhD	60	30	7.5	4.0	8
CSM	Computer Science	MS	30	126	7.5	2.0	63
CSM	Computer Science	PhD	48	36	6	4.0	9
College of Management							
CM	Accounting	MS	42	98	8.3	2.5	39
CM	Business Admin	MBA	48	299	8	3.0	100
CM	Business Admin	PhD	40	37	5	4.0	9
CM	Finance	MS	45	55	9	2.5	22
CM	Information Tech	MS	42	42	8.25	2.5	17
CM	International Mngmt	MS	45	13	6.5	3.5	4
College of Nursing and Health Sciences							
CNHS	Exercise & Health Sci	MS	38	13	9.5	2	7
CNHS	Exercise & Health Sci	PhD	60	6	7.5	4.0	2
CNHS	Nursing	MS	48	168	7.5	3.2	53
CNHS	Nursing Practice	DNP	78	39	9	4.3	9
CNHS	Nursing	PhD	60	42	7.5	4	11

Notes. (1) Degree requirements [DR] are taken from UMB website; (2) Enrollment targets [TENR] are based on actual enrollments for Fall 2016; (3) Target credit hour load [TCH] is calculated in order to result in target time to degree; (4) Target time to degree [TTTD] is taken from UMB website or, when not listed, estimated based on standard credit hour load for graduate students; (5) target annual degrees awarded [TDEG] is calculated by dividing enrollment target by target time to degree.

Table 1 continued

			DEG REQ DR ⁽¹⁾	ENR TGT TENR ⁽²⁾	TGT CH LOAD TCH ⁽³⁾	TGT TTD TTTD ⁽⁴⁾	TGT DEG/YR TDEG ⁽⁵⁾
McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies							
MGS	Conflict Resolution	MA	36	39	9	2.0	20
MGS	Global Gov & Hum Sec	PhD	68	43	9	3.8	11
MGS	International Relations	MA	36	20	9	2.0	10
MGS	Public Administration	MPA	36	66	9	2.0	33
MGS	Global Comp Public Adm	MPA	39	30	10	2.0	15
MGS	Public Policy	PhD	67	47	9	3.7	13
MGS	Gerontology	MS	36	82	9	2.0	41
MGS	Gerontology	PhD	69	47	9	3.8	12
College of Education and Human Development							
CEHD	Education	MEd	36	36	9	2.0	18
CEHD	Education Admin	MEd	36	40	9	2.0	20
CEHD	Early Childhd Ed & Care	PhD	63	10	9	3.5	3
CEHD	Special Education	MEd	36	44	9	2.0	22
CEHD	Family Therapy	MS	60	10	9	3.3	3
CEHD	Mental Health Coun	MS	60	90	9	3.3	27
CEHD	School Counseling	MEd	60	71	9	3.3	21
CEHD	School Psychology	MEd	66	20	9	3.7	5
CEHD	Counseling Psych	PhD	91	91	11.3	4.0	23
CEHD	Education	EdD	65	31	9	3.6	9
CEHD	Higher Education	EdD	60	15	6	5.0	3
CEHD	Higher Education	PhD	72	46	6	6.0	8
CEHD	UrbanEdLdrshp&Pol	PhD	65	23	8	4.1	6
College of Advanced and Professional Studies							
CAPS	Critical & Creative Th	MA	33	24	9	1.8	13
CAPS	Instructional Design	MEd	36	66	9	2.0	33
School for the Environment							
SFE	Environmental Sci	MS	30	21	7.5	2.0	11
SFE	Environmental Sci	PhD	60	24	6	5.0	5
SFE	Marine Science & Tech	MS	33	8	8.25	2.0	4
SFE	Marine Science & Tech	PhD	42	10	9	2.3	4
SFE	Urban Plng&CommDev	MS	48	12	9	2.7	5
School for Global Inclusion and Social Development							
SGISD	Vision Studies	MS	37	119	9	2.1	58
SGISD	Rehabilitation Coun	MS	60	30	9	3.3	9
SGISD	Global Inclusion & SD	MA	39	16	9	2.2	7
SGISD	Global Inclusion & SD	PhD	67	30	9	3.7	8

Notes. (1) Degree requirements [DR] are taken from UMB website; (2) Enrollment targets [TENR] are based on actual enrollments for Fall 2016; (3) Target credit hour load [TCH] is calculated in order to result in target time to degree; (4) Target time to degree [TTTD] is taken from UMB website or, when not listed, estimated based on standard credit hour load for graduate students; (5) target annual degrees awarded [TDEG] is calculated by dividing enrollment target by target time to degree.

Table 2 depicts the benchmark indicators for graduate program success based on the degrees awarded during academic year 2017. Variables are explained as follows:

Actual degrees awarded per year (ADEG) – the number of degrees awarded in program during academic year 2017.

Actual time to degree (ATTD) – approximate number of years between the admit term and the completion term.

Actual credit hours earned upon degree completion (ACH) – final credit hours accumulated upon degree completion.

Actual credit hour load (ALOAD) – calculated by dividing one-half of the actual credit hours earned by the actual time to degree. This measure represents the approximate mean number of credit hours a graduate student had taken per semester to complete degree requirements by AY 17.

Mean (GPA) and standard deviation (SD GPA) for grade point average – the final GPA for students completing during AY17.

At the Master's program level, the actual time to degree ranged from 1.8-3.7 years with the average time to degree of 2.4 (mean) and 2.0 (median) years. At the Doctoral program level, the actual time to degree ranged from 2.3-6.0 years with the average (mean and median) time to degree of 4.0 years.

Table 2: Benchmark success indicators based on degrees awarded in academic year 2017

			AY17 Degrees Awarded					
			ACT DEG/YR ADEC ⁽¹⁾	ACT TTD ATTD ⁽²⁾	ACH CH CUM ACH ⁽³⁾	MEAN CH LD ALOAD ⁽⁴⁾	MEAN GPA GPA	SD GPA
College of Liberal Arts								
CLA	American Studies	MA	5	2.3	36.0	8.0	3.70	0.31
CLA	Applied Economics	MA	7	1.7	32.8	9.6	3.55	0.32
CLA	Applied Linguistics	MA	45	2.9	32.4	5.6	3.92	0.11
CLA	Applied Sociology	MA	11	1.8	38.3	10.6	3.53	0.28
CLA	Sociology	PhD	2	3.8	49.5	6.5	3.80	0.07
CLA	Clinical Psychology	MA	7	3.0	80.2	13.4	3.99	0.02
CLA	Clinical Psychology	PhD	13	7.3	154.6	10.6	3.96	0.06
CLA	Dev & Brain Sciences	PhD	1	4.0	75.0	9.4	3.99	0.00
CLA	Creative Writing	MFA	11	3.2	48.4	7.6	3.98	0.04
CLA	English	MA	23	2.6	37.9	7.3	3.89	0.14
CLA	Historical Archaeology	MA	10	3.8	36.5	4.8	3.95	0.05
CLA	History	MA	22	3.0	31.8	5.3	3.72	0.23
CLA	Human Services	MS	14	2.2	39.0	8.9	3.64	0.32
CLA	Latin & Classical Human	MA	7	1.9	37.4	9.8	3.67	0.33
CLA	Transnational CCS	MS	5	2.0	42.3	10.6	3.87	0.10
College of Science and Mathematics								
CSM	Applied Physics	MS	16	1.9	36.1	9.5	3.58	0.08
CSM	Applied Physics	PhD	<i>Information not available</i>					
CSM	Biology	MS	9	3.0	48.9	8.2	3.91	0.11
CSM	Biology	PhD	5	7.2	61.6	4.3	3.94	0.06
CSM	BioMed Eng & Biotch	PhD	<i>Information not available</i>					
CSM	Biotech & Biomed Sci	MS	1	1.5	31.0	10.3	3.94	0.00
CSM	Chemistry	MS	2	2.8	49.5	8.8	3.48	0.68
CSM	Chemistry	PhD	2	4.0	83.0	10.4	3.87	0.19
CSM	Computer Science	MS	69	2.3	33.1	7.2	3.63	0.21
CSM	Computer Science	PhD	7	5.1	85.6	8.4	3.78	0.18
College of Management								
CM	Accounting	MS	53	2.3	37.9	8.2	3.72	0.16
CM	Business Admin	MBA	145	2.2	41.8	9.5	3.71	0.17
CM	Business Admin	PhD	1	4.0	42.0	5.3	3.93	0.00
CM	Finance	MS	28	2.2	38.7	8.8	3.67	0.21
CM	Information Tech	MS	20	2.1	53.1	12.6	3.70	0.19
CM	International Mngmt	MS	7	1.9	47.8	12.6	3.53	0.23
College of Nursing and Health Sciences								
CNHS	Exercise & Health Sci	MS	8	2.0	38.6	9.7	3.86	0.14
CNHS	Exercise & Health Sci	PhD	<i>Information not available</i>					
CNHS	Nursing	MS	59	3.4	49.0	7.2	3.84	0.13
CNHS	Nursing Practice	DNP	14	2.9	42.5	7.3	3.80	0.14
CNHS	Nursing	PhD	3	4.2	63.0	7.5	3.83	0.04

Notes. (1) Actual number of degrees awarded [ADEC] for AY17; (2) Actual time to degree [ATTD] is approximately the number of years between admit term and completion term; (3) Actual credit hours accumulated upon program completion [ACH] ; (4) Actual credit hour load [ALOAD] is calculated by dividing actual credit hours earned by actual time to degree.

Table 2 continued

			AY17 Degrees Awarded						
ACT DEG/YR ADEG ⁽¹⁾	ACT TTD ATTD ⁽²⁾	ACH CH CUM ACH ⁽³⁾	MEAN CH LD ALOAD ⁽⁴⁾	MEAN GPA GPA	SD GPA				
McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies									
MGS	Conflict Resolution	MA	19	2.6	36.4	7.0	3.67	0.21	
MGS	Global Gov & Hum Sec	PhD	9	2.5	52.1	10.4	3.87	0.08	
MGS	Public Administration	MPA	29	2.1	36.7	8.7	3.69	0.30	
MGS	Global Comp Public Adr	MPA	<i>Information not available</i>						
MGS	International Relations	MA	6	1.5	36.0	12.0	3.56	0.21	
MGS	Public Policy	PhD	7	4.4	71.0	8.1	3.67	0.17	
MGS	Gerontology	MS	42	2.7	37.6	7.0	3.74	0.24	
MGS	Gerontology	PhD	8	6.8	67.9	5.0	3.71	0.16	
College of Education and Human Development									
CEHD	Education	MEd	211	2.1	36.7	8.7	3.82	0.22	
CEHD	Education Admin	MEd	30	1.5	36.3	12.1	3.91	0.09	
CEHD	Early Childhd Ed & Care	PhD	<i>Information not available</i>						
CEHD	Special Education	MEd	22	2.7	39.7	7.4	3.75	0.20	
CEHD	Family Therapy	MS	7	3.5	32.6	4.7	3.77	0.28	
CEHD	Mental Health Coun	MS	37	2.8	60.6	10.8	3.90	0.13	
CEHD	School Counseling	MEd	32	2.5	60.2	12.0	3.95	0.06	
CEHD	School Psychology	MEd	7	2.0	59.1	14.8	3.84	0.28	
CEHD	Counseling Psych	PhD	10	4.3	116.3	13.5	3.98	0.01	
CEHD	Education	EdD	4	7.6	69.0	4.5	3.73	0.17	
CEHD	Higher Education	EdD	2	12.3	63.5	2.6	3.79	0.20	
CEHD	Higher Education	PhD	5	7.4	72.0	4.9	3.82	0.19	
CEHD	UrbanEdLdrshp&Pol	PhD	2	6.0	74.0	6.2	3.98	0.00	
College of Advanced and Professional Studies									
CAPS	Critical & Creative Th	MA	5	2.5	34.5	6.9	3.77	0.16	
CAPS	Instructional Design	MEd	36	2.8	38.1	6.8	3.91	0.13	
School for the Environment									
SFE	Environmental Sci	MS	10	1.4	35.5	12.7	3.73	0.27	
SFE	Environmental Sci	PhD	5	2.0	87.8	22.0	3.86	0.13	
SFE	Marine Science & Tech	MS	1	<i>Information not available</i>					
SFE	Marine Science & Tech	PhD	<i>Information not available</i>						
SFE	Urban Plng&CommDev	MS	<i>Information not available</i>						
School for Global Inclusion and Social Development									
SGISD	Vision Studies	MS	32	3.0	39.3	6.6	3.84	0.20	
SGISD	Rehabilitation Coun	MS	11	2.5	60.4	12.1	3.78	0.25	
SGISD	Global Inclusion & SD	MA	4	2.4	40.5	8.4	3.72	0.19	
SGISD	Global Inclusion & SD	PhD	<i>Information not available</i>						

Notes. (1) Actual number of degrees awarded [ADEG] for AY17; (2) Actual time to degree [ATTD] is approximately the number of years between admit term and completion term; (3) Actual credit hours accumulated upon program completion [ACH] ; (4) Actual credit hour load [ALOAD] is calculated by dividing actual credit hours earned by actual time to degree.

Actual Metrics for Graduate Student Success

Table 3 depicts the key metrics based on actual enrollment totals for respective graduate programs during the Fall 2017 semester. Variables are explained as follows:

Actual enrollment (ENR) – the number of students enrolled in graduate program during Fall 2017 semester.

Actual attrition (ATTR) – the attrition for a program is calculated as the number of degree-seeking graduate students that were enrolled in Fall 2016 and neither graduated by or enrolled in Fall 2017 semester.

Actual attrition rate (%ATTR) – actual attrition divided by actual enrollment during the Fall 2016 semester.

Actual credit hour load (CH) – actual mean credit hours taken by graduate students for respective program during the Fall 2017 semester.

Projected time to degree (PTTD) – calculated as the actual credit hours accumulated by AY17 graduates divided by the actual credit hour load during Fall 2017 semester.

Projected annual degrees awarded (PDEG) – calculated by subtracting actual attrition from Fall 2017 actual enrollment and then dividing by projected time to degree.

For example, a MS in Applied Physics is designed to take 1.9 years as a target time to degree to complete 34 credit hours (Table 1). However, in AY17, 16 students earned a MS in Applied Physics completed an average of 36.1 credit hours that took 1.9 years to complete (Table 2). Students enrolled in that program during Fall 2017 were taking 8.6 credit hours, suggesting the projected time to degree to complete 36.1 credit hours of degree requirements would be 2.1 years (Table 3). Finally, with an enrollment of 14 students and an attrition rate of 17%, one could expect about 5.5 Applied Physics (MS) degrees awarded per year.

Overall, these metrics serve as good benchmark indicators to augment assessment efforts of graduate programs. For example, the academic performance of international graduate students, including those in the International Student Success Program (formerly Navitas), can be compared using these benchmark indicators for tracking student success.

Table 3: Enrollment metrics for Fall 2017

			ACT ENR ENR ⁽¹⁾	ACT ATTR ATTR ⁽²⁾	ATTR RATE %ATTR ⁽³⁾	ACT CH LOAD CH ⁽⁴⁾	PROJ TTD PTTD ⁽⁵⁾	PROJ DEG/YR PDEG ⁽⁶⁾
College of Liberal Arts								
CLA	American Studies	MA	18	10	50%	7.0	2.6	3.5
CLA	Applied Economics	MA	14	1	7%	8.4	2.0	6.7
CLA	Applied Linguistics	MA	151	11	7%	4.5	3.6	39.0
CLA	Applied Linguistics	PhD	4	<i>New Program</i>		6.8	<i>New Program</i>	
CLA	Applied Sociology	MA	15	1	8%	8.8	2.2	6.3
CLA	Sociology	PhD	27	3	11%	5.2	4.8	5.0
CLA	Clinical Psychology	MA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
CLA	Clinical Psychology	PhD	53	2	4%	11.2	6.9	7.4
CLA	Dev & Brain Sciences	PhD	20	1	5%	5.0	7.5	2.5
CLA	Creative Writing	MFA	32	4	15%	8.7	2.8	9.8
CLA	English	MA	58	5	8%	5.7	3.3	16.1
CLA	Historical Archaeology	MA	53	0	0%	2.9	6.3	8.4
CLA	History	MA	74	11	15%	4.5	3.5	17.8
CLA	Human Services	MS	11	0	0%	6.6	3.0	3.7
CLA	Latin & Classical Human	MA	16	0	0%	5.3	3.5	4.5
CLA	Transnational CCS	MS	17	3	23%	9.5	2.2	5.9
College of Science and Mathematics								
CSM	Applied Physics	MS	14	3	17%	8.6	2.1	5.5
CSM	Applied Physics	PhD	6	0	0%	7.0	n/a	n/a
CSM	Biology	MS	9	2	20%	7.1	3.4	2.1
CSM	Biology	PhD	54	4	7%	6.0	5.1	9.8
CSM	BioMed Eng & Biotch	PhD	4	0	0%	3.8	n/a	n/a
CSM	Biotech & Biomed Sci	MS	5	0	0%	8.0	1.9	2.6
CSM	Integrative Biosciences	PhD	4	<i>New Program</i>		9.0	<i>New Program</i>	
CSM	Chemistry	MS	12	4	31%	7.5	3.3	2.5
CSM	Chemistry	PhD	28	5	17%	8.2	5.1	4.6
CSM	Computer Science	MS	100	13	10%	8.3	2.0	45.1
CSM	Computer Science	PhD	40	1	3%	7.8	5.5	7.1
CSM	Computational Sciences	PhD	5	<i>New Program</i>		9.0	<i>New Program</i>	
College of Management								
CM	Accounting	MS	68	10	10%	7.4	2.6	23.9
CM	Business Admin	MBA	273	25	8%	6.9	3.0	82.9
CM	Business Admin	PhD	38	2	5%	7.8	2.7	13.4
CM	Business Analytics	MS	6	<i>New Program</i>		7.7	<i>New Program</i>	
CM	Finance	MS	53	4	7%	8.3	2.3	21.1
CM	Information Tech	MS	46	3	7%	7.7	3.4	12.4
CM	International Mngmt	MS	5	1	8%	9.0	2.7	1.7
College of Nursing and Health Sciences								
CNHS	Exercise & Health Sci	MS	14	2	15%	9.8	2.0	6.0
CNHS	Exercise & Health Sci	PhD	11	0	0%	8.5	n/a	n/a
CNHS	Nursing	MS	170	5	3%	6.1	4.0	41.1
CNHS	Nursing Practice	DNP	36	4	10%	5.3	4.0	8.1
CNHS	Nursing	PhD	47	0	0%	4.9	6.4	7.3

Notes. (1) Actual enrollment [ENR] during Fall 2017 semester; (2) Attrition [ATTR] is calculated as the number of degree-seeking grad students enrolled in F2016 that either did not graduate in AY17 nor were enrolled in F2017; (3) Attrition rate [%ATTR] is attrition divided by actual enrollment; (4) Actual credit hour load [CH] is the mean credit hours taken by grad students in that program for Fall 2017 semester; (5) Projected time to degree [PTTD] is calculated as the actual credit hours accumulated by graduates during AY17 divided by the actual credit hours taken in Fall 2017; (6) Projected annual degrees awarded [PDEG] is calculated by subtracting attrition from enrollment and then dividing by projected time to degree.

Table 3 continued

			ACT ENR ENR ⁽¹⁾	ACT ATTR ATTR ⁽²⁾	ATTR RATE %ATTR ⁽³⁾	ACT CH LOAD CH ⁽⁴⁾	PROJ TTD PTTD ⁽⁵⁾	PROJ DEG/YR PDEG ⁽⁶⁾
McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies								
MGS	Conflict Resolution	MA	37	6	15%	5.9	3.1	10.2
MGS	Global Gov & Hum Sec	PhD	51	3	7%	5.8	4.5	10.6
MGS	Public Administration	MPA	39	4	6%	7.8	2.4	15.6
MGS	Global Comp Public Adm	MPA	29	3	20%	8.2	n/a	n/a
MGS	International Relations	MA	19	0	0%	7.7	2.3	8.3
MGS	Public Policy	PhD	47	5	11%	5.0	7.1	5.9
MGS	Gerontology	MS	74	8	10%	4.3	4.4	15.2
MGS	Gerontology	PhD	48	1	2%	4.5	7.5	6.2
College of Education and Human Development								
CEHD	Education	MEd	257	42	16%	7.6	2.4	89.4
CEHD	Education Admin	MEd	21	4	10%	6.6	2.8	6.9
CEHD	Early Childhd Ed & Care	PhD	9	0	0%	11.3	n/a	n/a
CEHD	Special Education	MEd	45	4	9%	5.3	3.7	10.9
CEHD	Family Therapy	MS	2	2	20%	6.0	2.7	0.6
CEHD	Mental Health Coun	MS	101	6	7%	9.2	3.3	28.5
CEHD	School Counseling	MEd	62	5	7%	10.6	2.8	20.3
CEHD	School Psychology	MEd	22	2	10%	10.9	2.7	7.3
CEHD	Counseling Psych	PhD	40	0	0%	11.4	5.1	7.8
CEHD	Education	EdD	29	2	6%	3.1	11.1	2.4
CEHD	Higher Education	EdD	14	0	0%	4.3	7.4	1.9
CEHD	Higher Education	PhD	52	2	4%	3.8	9.5	5.3
CEHD	UrbanEdLdrshp&Pol	EdD	16	0	0%	7.1	<i>New Program</i>	
CEHD	UrbanEdLdrshp&Pol	PhD	23	1	7%	5.2	7.1	3.0
College of Advanced and Professional Studies								
CAPS	Critical & Creative Th	MA	33	2	8%	5.0	3.5	8.8
CAPS	Instructional Design	MEd	71	4	6%	3.9	4.9	13.7
School for the Environment								
SFE	Environmental Sci	MS	16	1	5%	5.8	3.1	5.0
SFE	Environmental Sci	PhD	23	0	0%	8.1	5.4	4.2
SFE	Marine Science & Tech	MS	9	1	13%	5.3	n/a	n/a
SFE	Marine Science & Tech	PhD	11	0	0%	8.8	n/a	n/a
SFE	Urban Plng&CommDev	MS	28	1	8%	8.5	n/a	n/a
School for Global Inclusion and Social Development								
SGISD	Vision Studies	MS	120	14	12%	4.1	4.8	22.0
SGISD	Rehabilitation Coun	MS	34	3	15%	8.4	3.6	8.0
SGISD	Global Inclusion & SD	MA	13	3	19%	7.9	2.6	4.1
SGISD	Global Inclusion & SD	PhD	36	2	7%	6.5	n/a	n/a

Notes. (1) Actual enrollment [ENR] during Fall 2017 semester; (2) Attrition [ATTR] is calculated as the number of degree-seeking grad students enrolled in F2016 that either did not graduate in AY17 nor were enrolled in F2017; (3) Attrition rate [%ATTR] is attrition divided by actual enrollment; (4) Actual credit hour load [CH] is the mean credit hours taken by grad students in that program for Fall 2017 semester; (5) Projected time to degree [PTTD] is calculated as the actual credit hours accumulated by graduates during AY17 divided by the actual credit hours taken in Fall 2017; (6) Projected annual degrees awarded [PDEG] is calculated by subtracting attrition from enrollment and then dividing by projected time to degree.

Conclusion

Time to degree is a key measure for graduate student success. A key indicator for tracking graduate student progress involves the credit hours taken per semester. The credit hour load for a student can project the time to degree as well as provide an indication of student involvement in their degree program. Student involvement is a predictor of student success, especially for doctoral programs. As a secondary indicator, grades can be a predictor of student success for master's programs.

Girves, J. E., & Wemmerus, V. (1988). Developing models of graduate student degree progress. *Journal of Higher Education* 59/2.