



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

AN INVESTIGATION INTO CREDIT HOURS EARNED AT THE TIME OF GRADUATION BY UNDERGRADUATES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN Academic Year 2001-2002

Background

This is a result of a May 15, 2003 request of the President's Task Force on Enrollment. Specifically, the group wanted to know the average number of credit hours students have at the time of graduation.

The Dataset

Students Information Systems created a dataset consisting of all UT graduates earning degrees at the end of the fall 2001, spring 2002, and summer 2002 semesters. For dual degree-holders ($n=236$), the first degree listed was counted. The undergraduate degree is listed for those in a joint degree program, such as BBA/MPA. Thus, the population studied includes 7,826 observations of which 5,596 entered as first time freshmen, 2,228 entered as transfers, and 2 are still officially listed as "undetermined."

Results

The mean number of total credit hours earned at the time of graduation for all of the graduates ($n=7,826$) was 142.30. There was no practical difference between those entering as first time freshmen ($n=5,596$ graduating with a mean of 141.06 credit hours), and those entering as transfers ($n=2,228$ with a mean of 145.36).

Of the total, 236 graduates (3.02%) earned dual degrees and averaged 170.97 credit hours at the time of graduation. Single degree earners (96.98%) averaged 141.41 hours.

An analysis of "UT Hours," or hours earned in residence plus UT extension and correspondence courses, shows the mean for all graduates was 115.47. Not surprisingly, there was a significant difference between those entering as first time freshmen ($m=128.27$) and those entering as transfers ($m=83.26$).

An analysis of hours earned in residence shows the mean for all graduates was 104.73. Again, not surprisingly, there was a significant difference between those entering as first time freshmen ($m=115.16$) and those entering as transfers ($m=78.45$).

The table beginning on the next page is a cross tab of degrees earned and the average number of hours earned at the time of graduation. The results are nearly identical to a similar study conducted by the Office of Admissions in January of 2001. (See Lavergne and Hargett: <http://www.utexas.edu/student/research/reports/admissions/DegreesHours.htm>.)

Generally, UT students are graduating with approximately 20 hours more than the minimum number of hours required for the successful completion of their degree program, regardless of the number of hours required in their program.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 NUMBER OF HOURS PASSED UPON RECEIPT OF UNDERGRAD DEGREE
 TRANSFERRED HOURS ARE INCLUDED

Note: "N" is the number of graduates.

DEGREE	DEGREE CCYYS							
	20019		20022		20026		All	
	HOURS	PASSED	HOURS	PASSED	HOURS	PASSED	HOURS	PASSED
	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean
110-BACHELOR OF ARTS	841	136.85	1644	138.31	600	139.13	3085	138.07
120-BACHELOR OF ARCHITECTURE	9	186.33	37	184.54	13	177.46	59	183.25
130-BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ART	15	142.20	39	139.92	23	143.04	77	141.30
150-BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DRAMA	1	129.00	.	.	.	.	1	129.00
160-BACHELOR OF ARTS IN MUSIC	5	166.60	10	174.20	6	161.83	21	168.86
165-BACHELOR OF ARTS IN THEATRE AND DANCE	14	137.21	21	134.81	9	134.22	44	135.45
170-BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	236	135.88	680	138.59	124	135.94	1040	137.66
190-BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS	33	154.39	68	147.84	24	137.83	125	147.65
200-BACHELOR OF JOURNALISM	57	130.60	92	134.03	37	130.41	186	132.26
210-BACHELOR OF MUSIC	11	177.55	27	170.85	4	163.25	42	171.88
215-BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK	34	141.26	32	135.09	.	.	66	138.27
220-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ADVERTISING	43	135.84	92	131.54	50	132.54	185	132.81
230-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN AEROSPACE ENGINEERING	7	154.14	29	156.31	9	152.78	45	155.27
235-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN APPLIED LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT	101	147.28	222	145.97	75	144.93	398	146.11
240-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING	15	161.67	25	156.92	2	175.00	42	159.48
250-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES	.	.	1	160.00	1	213.00	2	186.50
255-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BIOCHEMISTRY	15	158.60	29	155.34	7	165.43	51	157.69

260-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BIOLOGY	37	150.08	73	154.82	17	148.00	127	152.53
265-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BOTANY	.	.	2	171.00	.	.	2	171.00
280-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING	45	158.93	52	156.92	2	154.50	99	157.79
290-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CHEMISTRY	16	151.06	18	145.06	4	143.50	38	147.42
300-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING	34	164.94	41	156.44	4	158.50	79	160.20
302-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE	2	176.00	.	.	5	127.80	7	141.57
303-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCES AND DISORDERS	21	130.00	50	133.18	19	136.47	90	133.13
304-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATION STUDIES	92	131.22	194	129.40	57	133.77	343	130.62
305-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCES	68	155.49	95	156.58	45	160.29	208	157.02
320-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING	105	157.29	148	153.20	47	153.49	300	154.67
345-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES	9	172.00	10	157.10	5	160.40	24	163.38
347-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN GEOSYSTEMS ENGINEERING AND HYDROGEOLOG	.	.	4	160.75	.	.	4	160.75
351-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY SCIENCES	20	140.45	17	138.65	13	140.62	50	139.88
353-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INTERIOR DESIGN	2	132.00	8	188.88	1	151.00	11	175.09
355-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN KINESIOLOGY	36	143.44	51	141.35	32	144.41	119	142.81
360-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MATHEMATICS	10	150.80	41	155.10	12	156.00	63	154.59
370-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING	61	152.87	96	159.51	29	156.76	186	156.90
385-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MICROBIOLOGY	9	170.22	20	159.10	2	171.00	31	163.10
390-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING	48	161.10	55	167.64	1	247.00	104	165.38
395-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NUTRITION	9	162.44	24	163.21	5	163.40	38	163.05
400-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PETROLEUM								

ENGINEERING	4	153.25	18	157.06	3	172.67	25	158.32
410-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PHARMACY	2	251.00	.	.	.	.	2	251.00
430-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICS	8	170.88	17	162.12	3	166.67	28	165.11
435-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC RELATIONS	16	131.13	45	132.69	12	131.08	73	132.08
440-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN RADIO-TELEVISION- FILM	68	134.18	128	130.96	45	139.24	241	133.41
455-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN TEXTILES AND APPAREL	22	153.05	14	151.00	12	145.67	48	150.60
460-BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ZOOLOGY	5	149.00	8	147.13	4	168.25	17	152.65
All	2186	142.67	4277	142.26	1363	141.83	7826	142.30