

ADULT AND LIFELONG LEARNING

M.Ed. in Adult and Lifelong Learning

Academic Assessment Plan 2024

Program Goals

1. The M.Ed. degree prepares students for employment in programs that provide adult literacy and education, lifelong learning, community and nonprofit organizations, military education, postsecondary education, and continuing professional education. The program focuses on developing students as emerging scholars and practitioners.
2. The M.Ed. degree prepares coursework for students pursuing Adult Education licensure in order to serve as adult education instructors at state-approved adult education and literacy programs.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Describe the educational needs of adult learners in a myriad of adult and lifelong learning environments.
2. Develop and implement procedures to assess learning needs for adult learners.
3. Create and design instructional programs aimed at meeting the needs of adult learners.
4. Demonstrate leadership and management skills applicable to the organization and administration of adult and lifelong learning programs.
5. Apply problem solving skills in order to research and evaluate the impact of adult and lifelong learning programs on participants.

Process for Assessing each Student Learning Outcome

1. Timeline for assessment and analysis
 - a. ADLL 5223 Applied Project data collection occurs at the end of spring semester. The course serves as the program capstone and student performance is analyzed during the ADLL Strategic Planning meeting that is held after the close of each spring semester. Programmatic changes are considered based on the data analysis. Additionally exit interviews are conducted with students as part of the Applied Project.
2. Means of assessment and desired level of student achievement
 - a. Direct
 - b. *ADLL 5223 Applied Project* serves as a capstone experience and formative assessment that measures synthesis of program content which includes the five learning outcomes listed above. This assessment includes the following activities:
 - i. Identify a problem or an issue that exists within an adult education or lifelong learning setting.

- ii. Research interventions which have been used previously to address similar issues in adult education or lifelong learning settings.
 - iii. Develop a plan to address the problem or issue within the adult education or lifelong learning setting.
 - iv. Support the components of the plan which are designed to address the problem or issue.
- c. Indirect
- d. Exit Interviews provide ADLL faculty with information regarding student experiences in the program. The interview includes questions related to the immediate application of course material, the relevance and significance of the learning to students' current or intended careers, whether their intended goals have been met and/or been modified since beginning the program, and what aspects of the program should be altered to meet those goals.

Reporting of Results

Report annually to the Dean of the college/school the following:

Results of analysis of assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

ADLL 5223 Adult and Lifelong Learning Applied Project

Five students completed in ADLL 5223 Adult and Lifelong Learning Applied Project for this, the Spring 2024 semester. All five students earned a grade of 'A'.

Exit Interview

Five students completed the exit interview.

- Any changes to degree/certificate planned or made on the basis of the assessment and analysis

Changes Made to Degree/Certificate

ADLL members are currently analyzing feedback from students provided during their exit interviews completed prior to Spring 2024 graduation. Based on the feedback received this spring, it appears that there is no requirement to introduce new courses. However, there is a need to modify the content in ADLL 5113 (Perspectives in Adult Education) and ADLL 5123 (Principles and Practices). Students have highlighted overlapping content in these courses and suggest clearer differentiation between content and activities to enhance their understanding.

There is a recognized necessity to adjust the content of ADLL 5133 (Curriculum in ABE and ASE) to align it more closely with the diverse interests of students who are not employed in a state-approved adult education center in Arkansas. This course is set for redevelopment

during the Summer and Fall of 2024, in preparation for its instruction in Spring 2025. Professionals specializing in adult secondary education and English as a second language have been invited to contribute to the redevelopment process.