

## **Ed.D. in Adult and Lifelong Learning**

### **Academic Assessment Plan 2019-2020**

#### **Program Goals (3-4)**

- 1. The mission of the Adult and Lifelong Learning Program (ADLL) is to prepare scholar/practitioners for instructional and leadership positions that positively impact the learning experience of adults across the developmental spectrum.*
- 2. Coursework focuses on the assessment, design, implementation, administration and evaluation of educational programs for specialized groups of adults that include: adult learners pursuing secondary and post-secondary education, adults in educational programs offered by community and nonprofit agencies, participants in professional education programs, and executive education.*

#### **Student Learning Outcomes (6-8)**

*(Student Learning Outcomes are defined in terms of the knowledge, skills, and abilities that students will know and be able to do as a result of completing a program. These student learning outcomes are directly linked to the accomplishment of the program goals.)*

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 to research and evaluate the impact of adult and lifelong learning programs on participants.

#### **Process for Assessing each Student Learning Outcome**

##### **Direct**

##### **1. Candidacy Examinations**

In fall 2020, 12 students passed their Candidacy Examinations and were permitted to move toward the dissertation proposal.

2. **Dissertation Proposals** provide direct evidence that students can conceptualize and design original research

Five students successfully proposed dissertation topics

3. The **Dissertation Defense** provides direct evidence that the student can conduct original research.

Five students successfully defended dissertations

#### **Indirect**

1. The **Candidacy Examination** includes questions about the students' experience in the program beyond coursework.
2. **Student participation in research projects** and presentations at professional associations.
  - Five current doctoral students presented at the 2019 American Association of Adult and Continuing Education (AAACE) national conference St. Louis, Missouri.
  - Three doctoral students have had presentations accepted for the 2020 AAACE Conference in Reno, Nevada.

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

- Results of analysis of the assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

#### **Candidacy Examinations**

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

Two courses that were redeveloped in spring 2020 will be offered in summer and fall 2020. ADLL 5163 was redeveloped using OER materials.

Faculty moved ADLL 6433 Program Evaluation from the research core and made it an elective and included ADLL 6463 Advanced Qualitative Research in the research core. These changes were based on student feedback.

- Any changes to the assessment process made or planned.

Faculty met during the summer intersession to discuss the recommendations that students made regarding program improvement. Their comments were solicited during the Candidacy Examination. Based on the student feedback, faculty are considering developing intersession courses to provide targeted instruction in certain areas.